マブラヴ ALTERNATIVE

原作：アージュ
作画：時島 梓
英語訳：トニコビ

03

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 03

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島梓

C203-3
電撃コミックス

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It is translated and edited by one (insane) fan for English speaking fans.
This is a free fan-translation. If you paid for this, you've been gypped.
(But if someone gives you a little extra money for a job well done, you've been tipped.)

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English translation and editing: Tonigobe
www.tonigobe.com

Proofreading: Acroray
http://muvluvalternativenexus.blogspot.com/

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*SOBA-PAN = YAKI-SOBA PAN, CHOW MEIN BREAD, A SUB-SANDWICH WITH FRIED NOODLES. AYAMINE'S FAVORITE, AS PICTURED HERE.

3RD VOLUME RELEASE!! CONGRATULATIONS!!

KYA—, MAKAJIMA SA—N, AFTER THIS, YOU'LL HAVE MORE AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR SKILL (IN A SENSE, IT'S THE SENJUTSUKI'S TURN), BUT PLEASE, DO YOUR BEST. TABURA—MAN IS ALWAYS ROOTING FOR SYNTHETIC SOBA-PAN!*

DC マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 03

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C203-3

電撃コミックス

CONGRATULATIONS 3RD VOLUME RELEASE

I WAS ALLOWED TO INTERFERE AGAIN. THIS IS SUSAGANE. THIS TIME THE HIGHLIGHTS WERE THE LIVELY CHARACTER DEPICTIONS. AFTER ALL, PANEL BY PANEL, EVERYONE WAS ADORABLE. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

THIS HAS BEEN SASUGANE

ALTERNATIVE

‹ 03 ›

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episode:14

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU ...
SHIROGANE ... TAKERU-KUN
... ... ?
WHO IS HE ...? FROM THE IMPRESSION I GET, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A MILITARY MAN, BUT...
HE MUST HAVE CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY TO ENTER THIS ROOM...
SWOOP!

EE OW
OW OW
OW OW
OW OW
OW OW
OW OW
HMMM... THIS IS QUITE ELABORATE FOR A FAKE, ISN'T IT
MU GAH
GRAB!
HAH HAH HA ...YOU'RE A FUNNY (INTERESTING) MAN, AREN'T YOU
ARACK
THE FUNNY ONE (ODD ONE) IS YOU! WHAT WAS THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN !!
THIS GUY... EASILY INVADED MY SPACE...
EVEN I WOULD GET IN A SCUFFLE IN ORDER TO GET PAST AYAMINE, AND YET...!
SHIROGANE ... TAKERU
...YOU'RE THE REAL THING ...ARE YOU
...EH !?

AH... KASUMI!
...
...
CLENCH
MY, MY... EVEN IF YOU WEREN'T SO CAUTIOUS LIKE THAT, HE'D BE FINE, YOU KNOW
YASHIRO KASUMI ...CHAN?
DON'T TELL ME IT INVOLVES THE PALACE MINISTRY AGAIN...!?
THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE CLEAR OF SUSPICION
DON'T FORGET THAT
HE KNOWS MY NAME... IS THIS GUY LIKE SOME SORT OF SPY...?
!
ILLUMINATE

SENSEI !!
NOISY, AREN'T YOU... WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN SOMEONE ELSE'S ROOM ?
HA HA HA... WHAT THINK OF IT AS MY SELF-INTRODUCTION TO HIM
I DON'T RECALL, BUT DID I GET A RESERVATION FOR A MEETING, LET ALONE GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO ENTER?
...THIS BEHAVIOR IS UNACCEPTABLE FOR THE IMPERIAL MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE, ISN'T IT
A SECRET SERVICE AGENT, IS HE...!
THE IMPERIAL ...MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE !?
YOROI... YOU SAY EEH !?
DON'T TELL ME, HE'S MIKOTO'S —!?
I AM YOROI, FROM THE IMPERIAL MINISTRY OF INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 2ND DIVISION
IN OTHER WORDS, SHIROGANE TAKERU-KUN ?

HA...EHH
MUSUKO
(SON)
(GASP)
!?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT... MY MUSUKO (SON) IS ALWAYS INDEBTED TO YOU
SHE SHOULD BE A GIRL IN "THIS WORLD" ...SHOULDN'T SHE...!?
EH... WAIT A MINUTE
MIKOTO IS A GUY IN MY ACCOUNT OF "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"...
...
...
IT'S THAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A STRAPPING SON, YOU SEE
NO, THAT'S WRONG, ISN'T IT
IT'S MUSUKO IS SIMILAR TO MUSUME
YEAH
HM...AAH, HOW RUDE
MUSUME (DAUGHTER) IS SIMILAR TO MUSUKO
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT, IT'S MIKOTO'S DAD...!
THI-... THIS "GO AT MY OWN PACE" STYLE...

PUS
TREE
...
...
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP
MIKOTO-TYPE ANIMAL TRAP
EQUIPPED WITH AN IF-IT-GOES-IN-IT-CAN'T-COME-OUT MOUSE RETURN!
PEEP PEEEP!
HEHE
A DIET OF JUST SYNTHETIC FOOD ISN'T ENOUGH FOR A GROWING BODY, HUH!
PEEP PEEP PEEP PEEP
PEEEP!
ALL RIGHT
IT WENT FOR IT!
PEEP CHEEeeeeP!
BRUPT
I'LL HAVE OBA-CHAN (AUNTY) BAKE IT LATER!
...OH?
※CHART OF EXPECTATION 5 YEARS LATER
EVEN FOR ME... IF I TAKE PROPER NUTRITION, THEN, LIKE KEI-SAN...
WEH HEH HEH...

...KEI-SAN ?
...?
WHAT NOW ? YOU'LL HAVE ME PUT ALL THOSE MACHINES TO USE HERE ?
IT CONCERNS THE XG-70 AREN'T YOU INTERESTED ?
SO ...
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU COME FOR THIS TIME ?
XG-70 ...?
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT...?
...I WONDER, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS ? IT'S A SCRUBBED PLAN ANYWAY, RIGHT ?
THAT MEANS THE SKY LOOKS VERY DOUBTFUL FOR SOME REASON...

...I'M NOT INTERESTED
DO YOU KNOW THAT A STUDY GROUP NAMED THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH GROUP WAS FORMED ?
ACTUALLY, THERE SEEMS TO BE A SEDITIOUS MOVEMENT IN ONE PART OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY, RECENTLY
BY THAT, YOU UNDERSTAND THE INEXCUSABLE SITUATION, RIGHT
DOCTOR KOUDZUKI
IF THEY CAUSE TROUBLE, THERE WILL BE A POLITICAL-MILITARY VOID IN JAPAN
IF THAT HAPPENS, HOW DOES "THIS COUNTRY" MOVE ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS ASTUTELY...
ANTI-ALTERNATIVE INFLUENCES AND OTHER FORCES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS WON'T FALL COMPLETELY SILENT, DON'T YOU AGREE
...EXPECTING ME TO GO THERE IS UNAVOIDABLE
ENOUGH OF YOUR ROUNDABOUT STORIES
INSTEAD, HOW ABOUT YOU GET TO THE REAL ISSUE AT HAND QUICKLY ?
AND, AS A RESULT, YOUR (DOCTOR S) PLAN TOO...
NATURALLY, CONCERNS REGARDING XG-70 WILL BE IRRELEVANT AND NON-EXISTENT

THE TRUTH IS, STRANGE ORDERS THAT DIDN'T GO THROUGH THE PROPER CHANNELS WERE OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED FROM HERE, RECENTLY, YOU SEE...
THE FIRST WAS ON NOVEMBER 10, ADDRESSED TO THE IMPERIAL ARMY HEADQUARTERS
THE SECOND WAS ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 28.. ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED NATIONS' SPACE AND GENERAL ARMY NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS
I SEE... SO THAT'S THE REASON
THE 28TH WAS WHEN WE THWARTED THE HSST (HYPER SURFACE SHUTTLE TRANSPORT) (A RE-ENTRY-TYPE DESTROYER) FROM CRASHING DOWN
NOVEMBER 10 WAS WHEN THE BETA HEADED SOUTH FROM SADOGASHIMA ...
THANKS TO YOU, EDWARDS (EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE) SEEMINGLY FELL RIGHT INTO IT, DIDN'T THEY
HONOR IS AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL TRAIT... THEY WILL LIKELY HOLD A GRUDGE, EVEN FOR SOMETHING THEY ONCE DISCARDED, YOU KNOW
PERCEIVE ITS THREATENING MOVEMENTS IN THE WORST CASE POSSIBLE, I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR SHOOTING IT DOWN... AND, AAH THAT WAS DREADFUL
... ...
IT WAS A FRENZY WASN'T IT
WHEN YOU WATCH OUR OWN ARMY'S HSST, AND

WHO KNOWS ... ASK THE PERSON WHO ORDERED IT, WILL YOU
... ... AT FIRST, I DOUBTED WHETHER IT WAS YASHIRO KASUMI, BUT...
FURTHERMORE, IT'S CURIOUS THAT YOU MONITORED THE HSST AND SPECIFIED ITS POINT COORDINATES
AND IN THE CASE OF THE BETA LANDING DAYS BEFORE... HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO PREDICT THEIR MOVEMENTS SO ACCURATELY AND DESIGNATE UNIT REINFORCEMENTS SO PRECISELY ?
... KASUMI ?
WHY DID KASUMI COME UP THERE ...?
!
TURN!
! ...
! (GASP) ...
...A MAN WHO SHOULD BE DEAD IS HERE
WHAT'S WITH THIS OLD MAN...!! HOW MUCH DOES HE KNOW!?

WHETHER IT'S THE WORK OF GOD OR THE POWER OF THE DEVIL
...
...YOUR WORK ARDOR IS COMMENDABLE, BUT... AREN'T YOU STRAYING OFF TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD A LITTLE, PERHAPS?
WERE YOU ABLE TO HOLD EITHER ONE OF THEM IN YOUR HANDS ...?
ALTHOUGH, IT MUST HAVE BEEN INTER-MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION WHO REQUESTED YOU ?
UH-OH THAT'S RUDE ...
I'M A FAMILY DOG, AFTER ALL, SO... I CAN'T DISOBEY THE MASTER
SO BASICALLY, HOW ABOUT IF YOU DO YOUR OWN INVESTIGATING BEFORE ASKING SOMEONE ? THAT'S YOUR JOB, RIGHT
...THAT'S PAINFUL TO THE EARS
WELL THEN, FOLLOWING YOUR ADVICE
I WILL PERSONALLY GO AND INVESTIGATE !
RUB-
TLE!

GOOD-BYE
SHIROGANE TAKERU-KUN
WE'LL MEET AGAIN AT THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY
MOSHI MOSHI (HELLO)
IT'S ME
SECTION CHIEF YOROI IS LEAVING
DO ESCORT HIM TO THE ENTRANCE
...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU JUST UTTERLY HATE ABOUT ME, ISN'T THERE
CLACK!
BASHUN
...
...
EH ? AH...

THE XG SOMETHING
THE ANTI-ALTERNATIVE STUFF
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF THAT DISCUSSION AT ALL, AND...
IN THE END, WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT
THAT OLD MAN...
BA
EH!
...
...

MIKOTO'S DAD ...
AS FAR AS I CAN RECALL... I HAD NOT MET HIM IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"
...IS HE
NOT TO MENTION, HE'S LIKE AN IMPERIAL SECRET AGENT (INTELLIGENCE OFFICER)
... I WONDER, DOES MIKOTO KNOW ABOUT THIS?
SUU
IS THIS ... SOMETHING ... THAT WILL CHANGE ...
HISTORY TOO ...?
-CHAN
TAKERU-CHAN!

WAKE UP, WILL YOU TAKERU-CHAN
UHN ...
IT'S A HOLIDAY, SO LEMME REST A LITTLE LONGER...
...MU NYU ?
MU NYU.
TA- ...
もにゅ
GROPE!
TAKERU-CHAN ...?

...
AH
!
...
NN
AHH
...
WHAT IS IT, SUMIKA... IT'S A SUNDAY, AND YET, YOU'RE UP EARLY...
GROPE
TA-
TAKERU-
CHAN,
STOP
...!
HIAH
(GASP)
TWITCH
SQUISHY
HE-...
HEY,
STOP...
WHY
ARE YOU
MOVING
YOUR
HAND...!
NH
I DUNNO
MY HAND'S
STICKING TO
YOU
ON
ITS OWN
I-
I'M GETTING
TICKED OFF,
YOU KNOW
!?
...AH!
PAW
WIGGLY
...HM
SUMIKA,
DID
YOUR CHEST
BECOME HUGE
BEFORE
I KNEW IT
?
...OR
IS IT
MY
IMAGINATION
CRACKLING(?)
HEY
(GASP)
...
TAKERU-CHAN,
YOU'RE
IRRESPONSIBLY
...
SQUISHY

WHAT ...
ARE YOU... DOING...
ON
A
SUN-
DAY
BLAST!
MORN-
INNNNNG
(GASP) (GASP)
!!
...HA
!

A... A DREAM, WAS IT ...!
OF SUMIKA, AGAIN.... AM I HOMESICK, AFTER ALL ?
HM ?
SQUISH!
NH ...!
FLINCH
SHAKE!
P-... PLEASE LISTEN TO ME !!
... ...
KA- ...KASUMI !?
THIS IS THAT... THE REASON I WAS DOING SOMETHING PARTICULARLY STRANGE IS... THAT IS...
UWAAAAAAAAH!!!
BANG!
AND I HAVING A DESIRE FOR YASHIRO, YOU ASSAULTED HER ?
HOOHOO AND THEN ?
AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, I JUST HAD A DREAM, I SAY !!
THAT'S ABSOLUTELY WRONG !

...
...
THIS DREAM ...DO YOU SEE IT FREQUENTLY ?
STEAMY
LIKE I SAID, THAT'S WRONG ! IT'S NOT KASUMI, IT'S A DREAM ABOUT THE ORIGINAL WORLD...
...HM~M
SHE EVEN TURNED UP IN A DREAM
I REALIZE THAT IT'S BEEN PILING UP, BUT YASHIRO AS A PARTNER IS PRACTICALLY A CRIME, YOU KNOW ?
THOUGHTS
...
...
HM~M ...
NOW AND THEN, JUST AROUND AFTER THE GENERAL COMBAT SKILLS EXERCISES...
EH ? IT'S NOT THAT FREQUENT, BUT
YOU ARE AN ABNORMAL BEING WHO MOVES BETWEEN WORLDS, YOU KNOW ?
BESIDES, IF IT'S RELATED TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," THAT ALONE IS WORTH INVESTIGATING
ABNORMAL, YOU SAY
STILL, DON'T SAY IT SO PLAINLY LIKE THAT...
BUT, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO INVESTIGATE A DREAM ?
EH ? INVESTIGATE IT, YOU SAY...
IT'S AN ORDINARY DREAM, Y'KNOW ?
| THIS IS GOOD TIMING
WE'LL INVESTIGATE IT
CLATTER
...KASUMI ?
IF YASHIRO COMES IN AFTERWARD, IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM
YOU JUST LITERALLY HAVE TO SLEEP

...GOOD GRIEF
TO THINK THAT I'M EVEN BEING ORDERED TO SLEEP...
I CAN SLEEP ON MY OWN, SO IT'S OKAY !!
LOOK HERE
...BUT IF YOU CAN'T SLEEP, SHOULD I STILL BRING OUT THE MEDICINE ?
AS FOR YASHIRO, THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONLY SHE CAN DO
M.H
COME NOW ... YASHIRO
LET'S BEGIN, SHALL WE
"BO~" = SHIP'S DEEP HORN SOUND

AS YOU WOULD EXPECT OF THE MITSURUGI ZAIBATSU
GULP
...LIKE, I MEAN, IT FEELS AWKWARD TO EVEN PUT OUR OWN FOOTPRINTS ON THE FLOOR, DOESN'T IT
IT'S NICE THAT MITSURUGI-SAN INVITED US, BUT... WE'RE TERRIBLY OUT OF PLACE HERE, HUH...?
TA-... TAKERU-CHAN...
IF IT'S WINE, WE HAVE ROMANEE-CONTI, CHATEAU MOUTON-ROTHSCHILD, DOM PERIGNON LA BAY...
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK ?
WHAT LANGUAGE IS THIS !?
LE-... LET'S SEE, LEEEEET'S SEE ...
...SHALL I TAKE YOUR ORDER ?
HAWAWA WAWAWA WAWAWA WAWAWA WAWA...
BA!
YEEES (GASP) !?
BA! = STRONG SUDDEN REALIZATION
...
...
YES WHATEVER YOU WANT
WHATEVER, RIGHT ...?
I WE MAY ORDER...
CLATTER!
SHIHAININ-SAN (HALL MANAGER) ...

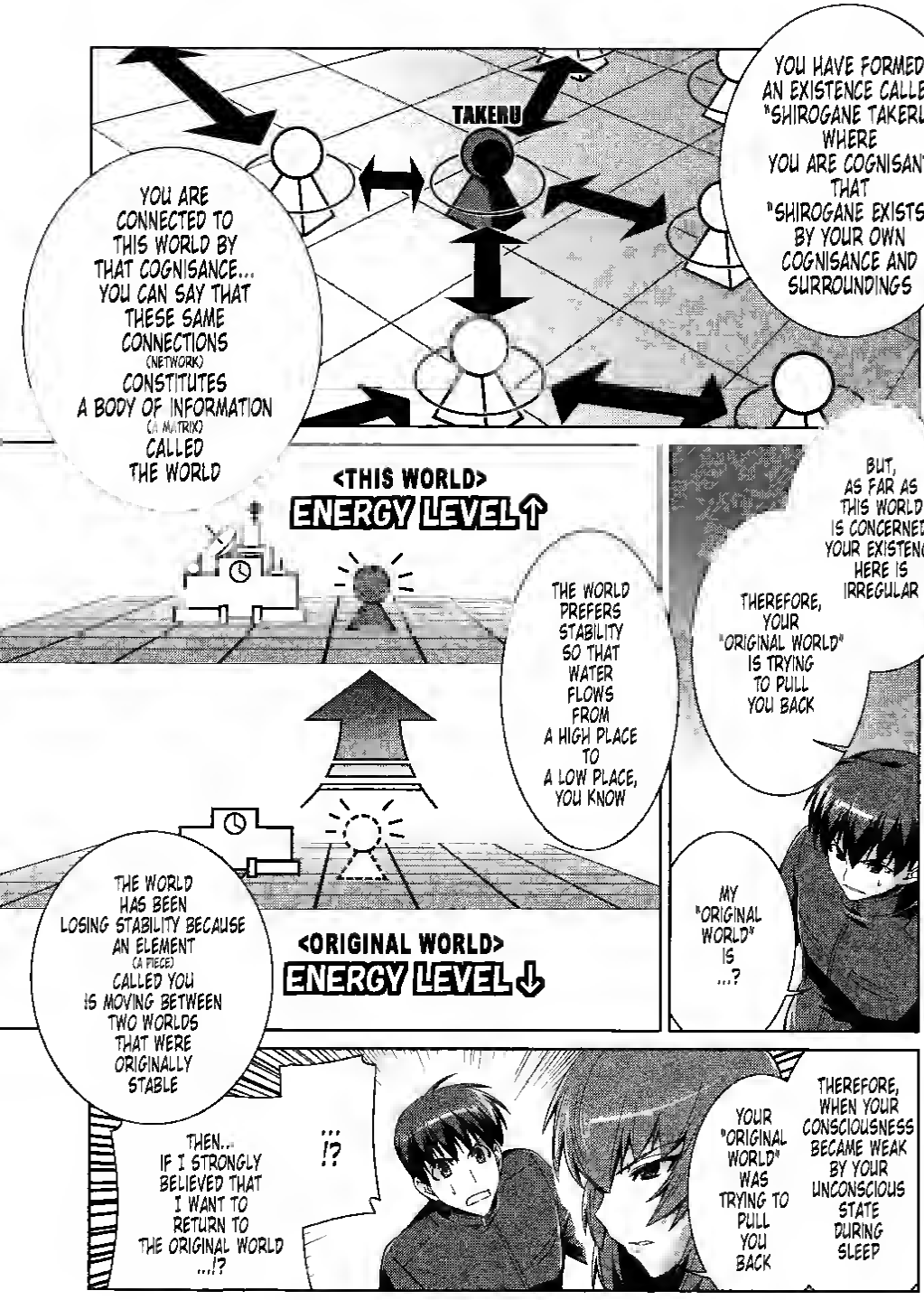
THEN ...
BAA
TWO EXTRA LARGE BEEF BOWLS, WITH EXTRA BROTH AND EGG !!
AAN
H-... HEY TAKERU-CHAN !?
WHAT ? MEIYA HAS HER WAY OF DOING THINGS, AND WE HAVE OURS
RIGHT ?
TH-THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
IF OUR WAYS WERE TOO DISCONNECTED, WE WOULDN'T GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER, YOU KNOW
BUT, WE MANAGE TO, SOMEHOW, DON'T WE
... ...

THIS CRUISE SHE (MEIYA) PREPARED IS HER STYLE, DON'T YOU THINK
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS IS THE REASON WE CAN GO AT OUR OWN PACE HERE
BUT...
...
...
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WORRY, KAGAMI-SAMA
EH (GASP) !?
WE TAKE SUPREME PLEASURE TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF OUR GUESTS
LET ME HUMBLY SAY... WE ARE ALSO A MINOR PART OF THE MITSURUGIS
SMILE
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
SHIHAININ-SAN (MR. MANAGER) YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING!
...I'M AT YOUR SERVICE

AND FOR THE SOUP, MISO SOUP, PLEASE!
...
...
THEN, WILL TEA FOR THE DRINKS
AND TSUKEMONO (PICKLED VEGETABLES) MADE OF BOK CHOY FOR THE HORS D'OEUVRES BE ALL RIGHT?
GOOD MORNING... HOW WAS IT?
THAT'S MY LINE, Y'KNOW
...WELL, IF IT WAS A DREAM, I WAS ABLE TO SEE IT, BUT...
...
...
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT WAS A DREAM?
EH?
むくっ
ARISE!
...HRM...
UFHI...
...
...
TUS
MOBILE
TUS
OTTER
KA-KASUMI-IP

YOUR BRAIN WAVES ... WE LOST THEM MID-WAY
...
...
EH ?
NOD
...DON'T TELL ME, WERE YOU AWAKE THE WHOLE TIME ...?
SLIP!
— I CAN CONCLUDE THIS
WHILE YOU WERE "DREAMING"
WHAT YOU WERE ENVISIONING WASN'T A DREAM ...
SHIROGANE — YOUR EXISTENCE WAS IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" YOU HAVE TALKED ABOUT
WORLD ....!?
THE ORIGINAL ...
— !!?

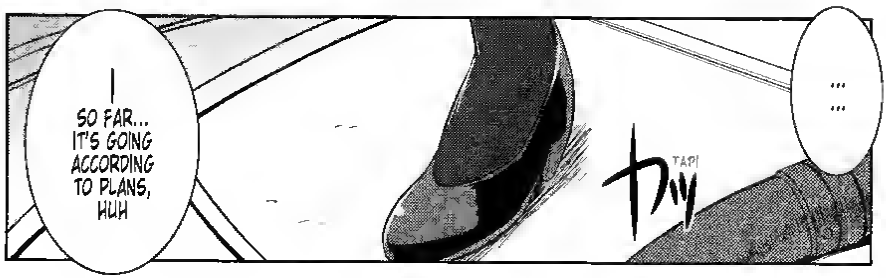
I WONDER, DO YOU REMEMBER THE DISCUSSION WE HAD BEFORE ?
YOU ARE THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE POSSIBILITY TO MOVE THE WORLD AT A PIVITOL POINT IN TIME BY THE SWAY OF YOUR INTENTIONS
THERE'S NO SUCH THING, I TELL YOU!
...! YOU'RE SAYING MY INTENTIONS ARE THE CAUSE !?
RIGHT NOW... TO SAVE "THIS WORLD" IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN TO GO BACK TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !
YOU KNOW THAT BEST YOURSELF, RIGHT ?
... ABOUT SWAYING ?
... REALLY
ASSUMING THAT'S THE CASE, THEN...
THE CAUSE SEEMS TO BE A PARALLEL DISORDER OF "THIS WORLD" AND "THE ORIGINAL WORLD", HUH
UMM HM..
... ?
FOR YOU TO EXIST IN THIS WORLD AS YOU, THERE ARE 3 FACTORS
YOUR OWN INTENTIONS
HUMAN COGNISANCE OF THE SURROUNDINGS
| THIS WORLD ITSELF


TAKERU
YOU HAVE FORMED AN EXISTENCE CALLED "SHIROGANE TAKERU" WHERE YOU ARE COGNISANT THAT "SHIROGANE EXISTS" BY YOUR OWN COGNISANCE AND SURROUNDINGS
YOU ARE CONNECTED TO THIS WORLD BY THAT COGNISANCE... YOU CAN SAY THAT THESE SAME CONNECTIONS (NETWORK) CONSTITUTES A BODY OF INFORMATION (A MATRIX) CALLED THE WORLD
<THIS WORLD>
ENERGY LEVEL↑
THE WORLD PREFERS STABILITY SO THAT WATER FLOWS FROM A HIGH PLACE TO A LOW PLACE, YOU KNOW
BUT, AS FAR AS THIS WORLD IS CONCERNED, YOUR EXISTENCE HERE IS IRREGULAR
THEREFORE, YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" IS TRYING TO PULL YOU BACK
MY "ORIGINAL WORLD" IS ...?
THE WORLD HAS BEEN LOSING STABILITY BECAUSE AN ELEMENT (A PIECE) CALLED YOU IS MOVING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS THAT WERE ORIGINALLY STABLE
<ORIGINAL WORLD>
ENERGY LEVEL↓
THEN... IF I STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT I WANT TO RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...!?
...!?
YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" WAS TRYING TO PULL YOU BACK
THEREFORE, WHEN YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS BECAME WEAK BY YOUR UNCONSCIOUS STATE DURING SLEEP

YOUR COGNISANCE OF BEING IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" SLIGHTLY EXCEEDS YOUR COGNISANCE OF BEING IN "THIS WORLD," I SUPPOSE
IF THAT IS SO
IT WILL BE MUCH EASIER TO RETURN YOU TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" NOW
I CAN RETURN ...?
TO THAT WORLD... CAN I ...?
TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...!
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT BEYOND THAT

EH ?
WHAT I SAID JUST NOW IS A DEDUCTION AT BEST
NOW, SUPPOSE YOU RETURNED TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD"... WE DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF SHAPE YOU'LL RETURN IN
AT WORST, EVEN SOMETHING LIKE JUST YOUR SPIRIT RETURNING, AND NOTHING MORE...
TH-THAT WOULD BE TROUBLE-SOME !!
WOULDN'T IT ?
SO, DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN GO BACK JUST NOW
... ...
UNDER-STOOD ...
THERE'S NO BETA
THERE'S NO WAR
TO THAT PEACEFUL WORLD WHERE I WAS ORIGINALLY FROM
... ...
I CAN RETURN... TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD...

THERE ARE THINGS THAT I STILL HAVE TO DO IN THIS WORLD ...
CLENCH!
FOR NOW... I CAN'T JUST YET
BUT
I DON'T EVER WANT TO GET SUCH A FEELING AGAIN
THIS TIME, FOR SURE, THE WORLD WILL BE SAVED... AND, ONE DAY...


I SO FAR... IT'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLANS, HUH
TAP!
... ...

!
...
BUT
FOR NOW, WE CAN'T SEND HIM HOME...
NOT YET
THE WORLD ... IS SEEKING STABILITY

episode:14

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU ...
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... ... ?
WHO IS HE ...? FROM THE IMPRESSION I GET, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A MILITARY MAN, BUT...
HE MUST HAVE CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY TO ENTER THIS ROOM...
SWOOP!

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GRAB!
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THE FUNNY ONE (ODD ONE) IS YOU! WHAT WAS THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN !!
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EVEN I WOULD GET IN A SCUFFLE IN ORDER TO GET PAST AYAMINE, AND YET...!
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THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE CLEAR OF SUSPICION
DON'T FORGET THAT
HE KNOWS MY NAME... IS THIS GUY LIKE SOME SORT OF SPY...?
!
ILLUMINATE

SENSEI !!
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IN OTHER WORDS, SHIROGANE TAKERU-KUN ?

HA...EHH
MUSUKO
(SON)
(GASP)
!?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT... MY MUSUKO (SON) IS ALWAYS INDEBTED TO YOU
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...
...
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NO, THAT'S WRONG, ISN'T IT
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YEAH
HM...AAH, HOW RUDE
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TREE
...
...
CHEEP
CHEEP
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CHEEP
MIKOTO-TYPE ANIMAL TRAP
EQUIPPED WITH AN IF-IT-GOES-IN-IT-CAN'T-COME-OUT MOUSE RETURN!
PEEP PEEEP!
HEHE
A DIET OF JUST SYNTHETIC FOOD ISN'T ENOUGH FOR A GROWING BODY, HUH!
PEEP PEEP PEEP PEEP
PEEEP!
ALL RIGHT
IT WENT FOR IT!
PEEP CHEEeeeeP!
BRUPT
I'LL HAVE OBA-CHAN (AUNTY) BAKE IT LATER!
...OH?
※CHART OF EXPECTATION 5 YEARS LATER
EVEN FOR ME... IF I TAKE PROPER NUTRITION, THEN, LIKE KEI-SAN...
WEH HEH HEH...

...KEI-SAN ?
...?
WHAT NOW ? YOU'LL HAVE ME PUT ALL THOSE MACHINES TO USE HERE ?
IT CONCERNS THE XG-70 AREN'T YOU INTERESTED ?
SO ...
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU COME FOR THIS TIME ?
XG-70 ...?
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT...?
...I WONDER, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS ? IT'S A SCRUBBED PLAN ANYWAY, RIGHT ?
THAT MEANS THE SKY LOOKS VERY DOUBTFUL FOR SOME REASON...

...I'M NOT INTERESTED
DO YOU KNOW THAT A STUDY GROUP NAMED THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH GROUP WAS FORMED ?
ACTUALLY, THERE SEEMS TO BE A SEDITIOUS MOVEMENT IN ONE PART OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY, RECENTLY
BY THAT, YOU UNDERSTAND THE INEXCUSABLE SITUATION, RIGHT
DOCTOR KOUDZUKI
IF THEY CAUSE TROUBLE, THERE WILL BE A POLITICAL-MILITARY VOID IN JAPAN
IF THAT HAPPENS, HOW DOES "THIS COUNTRY" MOVE ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS ASTUTELY...
ANTI-ALTERNATIVE INFLUENCES AND OTHER FORCES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS WON'T FALL COMPLETELY SILENT, DON'T YOU AGREE
...EXPECTING ME TO GO THERE IS UNAVOIDABLE
ENOUGH OF YOUR ROUNDABOUT STORIES
INSTEAD, HOW ABOUT YOU GET TO THE REAL ISSUE AT HAND QUICKLY ?
AND, AS A RESULT, YOUR (DOCTOR S) PLAN TOO...
NATURALLY, CONCERNS REGARDING XG-70 WILL BE IRRELEVANT AND NON-EXISTENT

THE TRUTH IS, STRANGE ORDERS THAT DIDN'T GO THROUGH THE PROPER CHANNELS WERE OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED FROM HERE, RECENTLY, YOU SEE...
THE FIRST WAS ON NOVEMBER 10, ADDRESSED TO THE IMPERIAL ARMY HEADQUARTERS
THE SECOND WAS ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 28.. ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED NATIONS' SPACE AND GENERAL ARMY NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS
I SEE... SO THAT'S THE REASON
THE 28TH WAS WHEN WE THWARTED THE HSST (HYPER SURFACE SHUTTLE TRANSPORT) (A RE-ENTRY-TYPE DESTROYER) FROM CRASHING DOWN
NOVEMBER 10 WAS WHEN THE BETA HEADED SOUTH FROM SADOGASHIMA ...
THANKS TO YOU, EDWARDS (EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE) SEEMINGLY FELL RIGHT INTO IT, DIDN'T THEY
HONOR IS AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL TRAIT... THEY WILL LIKELY HOLD A GRUDGE, EVEN FOR SOMETHING THEY ONCE DISCARDED, YOU KNOW
PERCEIVE ITS THREATENING MOVEMENTS IN THE WORST CASE POSSIBLE, I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR SHOOTING IT DOWN... AND, AAH THAT WAS DREADFUL
... ...
IT WAS A FRENZY WASN'T IT
WHEN YOU WATCH OUR OWN ARMY'S HSST, AND

WHO KNOWS ... ASK THE PERSON WHO ORDERED IT, WILL YOU
... ... AT FIRST, I DOUBTED WHETHER IT WAS YASHIRO KASUMI, BUT...
FURTHERMORE, IT'S CURIOUS THAT YOU MONITORED THE HSST AND SPECIFIED ITS POINT COORDINATES
AND IN THE CASE OF THE BETA LANDING DAYS BEFORE... HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO PREDICT THEIR MOVEMENTS SO ACCURATELY AND DESIGNATE UNIT REINFORCEMENTS SO PRECISELY ?
... KASUMI ?
WHY DID KASUMI COME UP THERE ...?
!
TURN!
! ...
! (GASP) ...
...A MAN WHO SHOULD BE DEAD IS HERE
WHAT'S WITH THIS OLD MAN...!! HOW MUCH DOES HE KNOW!?

WHETHER IT'S THE WORK OF GOD OR THE POWER OF THE DEVIL
...
...YOUR WORK ARDOR IS COMMENDABLE, BUT... AREN'T YOU STRAYING OFF TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD A LITTLE, PERHAPS?
WERE YOU ABLE TO HOLD EITHER ONE OF THEM IN YOUR HANDS ...?
ALTHOUGH, IT MUST HAVE BEEN INTER-MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION WHO REQUESTED YOU ?
UH-OH THAT'S RUDE ...
I'M A FAMILY DOG, AFTER ALL, SO... I CAN'T DISOBEY THE MASTER
SO BASICALLY, HOW ABOUT IF YOU DO YOUR OWN INVESTIGATING BEFORE ASKING SOMEONE ? THAT'S YOUR JOB, RIGHT
...THAT'S PAINFUL TO THE EARS
WELL THEN, FOLLOWING YOUR ADVICE
I WILL PERSONALLY GO AND INVESTIGATE !
RUB-
TLE!

GOOD-BYE
SHIROGANE TAKERU-KUN
WE'LL MEET AGAIN AT THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY
MOSHI MOSHI (HELLO)
IT'S ME
SECTION CHIEF YOROI IS LEAVING
DO ESCORT HIM TO THE ENTRANCE
...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU JUST UTTERLY HATE ABOUT ME, ISN'T THERE
CLACK!
BASHUN
...
...
EH ? AH...

THE XG SOMETHING
THE ANTI-ALTERNATIVE STUFF
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF THAT DISCUSSION AT ALL, AND...
IN THE END, WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT
THAT OLD MAN...
BA
EH!
...
...

AS FAR AS I CAN RECALL... I HAD NOT MET HIM IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"
MIKOTO'S DAD ...
...IS HE
NOT TO MENTION, HE'S LIKE AN IMPERIAL SECRET AGENT (INTELLIGENCE OFFICER)
...I WONDER, DOES MIKOTO KNOW ABOUT THIS?
SUU
IS THIS ...SOMETHING ...THAT WILL CHANGE ...
HISTORY TOO ...?
...-CHAN
...TAKERU-CHAN!

WAKE UP, WILL YOU TAKERU-CHAN
UHN ...
IT'S A HOLIDAY, SO LEMME REST A LITTLE LONGER...
...MU NYU ?
MU NYU.
TA- ...
もにゅ
GROPE!
TAKERU-CHAN ...?

...
AH
!
...
NN
AHH
...
WHAT IS IT, SUMIKA... IT'S A SUNDAY, AND YET, YOU'RE UP EARLY...
GROPE
TA-
TAKERU-
CHAN,
STOP
...!
HIAH
(GASP)
TWITCH
SQUISHY
HE-...
HEY,
STOP...
WHY
ARE YOU
MOVING
YOUR
HAND...!
NH
I DUNNO
MY HAND'S
STICKING TO
YOU
ON
ITS OWN
I-
I'M GETTING
TICKED OFF,
YOU KNOW
!?
...AH!
PAW
WIGGLY
...HM
SUMIKA,
DID
YOUR CHEST
BECOME HUGE
BEFORE
I KNEW IT
?
...OR
IS IT
MY
IMAGINATION
CRACKLING(?)
HEY
(GASP)
...
TAKERU-CHAN,
YOU'RE
IRRESPONSIBLY
...
SQUISHY

WHAT ...
ARE YOU... DOING...
ON
A
SUN-
DAY
BLAST!
MORN-
INNNNNG
(GASP) (GASP)
!!
...HA
!

A... A DREAM, WAS IT ...!
OF SUMIKA, AGAIN.... AM I HOMESICK, AFTER ALL ?
HM ?
SQUISH!
NH ...!
FLINCH
SHAKE!
P-... PLEASE LISTEN TO ME !!
... ...
KA- ...KASUMI !?
THIS IS THAT... THE REASON I WAS DOING SOMETHING PARTICULARLY STRANGE IS... THAT IS...
UWAAAAAAAAH!!!
BANG!
AND I HAVING A DESIRE FOR YASHIRO, YOU ASSAULTED HER ?
HOOHOO AND THEN ?
AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, I JUST HAD A DREAM, I SAY !!
THAT'S ABSOLUTELY WRONG !

...
...
THIS DREAM ...DO YOU SEE IT FREQUENTLY ?
STEAMY
LIKE I SAID, THAT'S WRONG ! IT'S NOT KASUMI, IT'S A DREAM ABOUT THE ORIGINAL WORLD...
...HM~M
SHE EVEN TURNED UP IN A DREAM
I REALIZE THAT IT'S BEEN PILING UP, BUT YASHIRO AS A PARTNER IS PRACTICALLY A CRIME, YOU KNOW ?
THOUGHTS
...
...
HM~M ...
NOW AND THEN, JUST AROUND AFTER THE GENERAL COMBAT SKILLS EXERCISES...
EH ? IT'S NOT THAT FREQUENT, BUT
YOU ARE AN ABNORMAL BEING WHO MOVES BETWEEN WORLDS, YOU KNOW ?
BESIDES, IF IT'S RELATED TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," THAT ALONE IS WORTH INVESTIGATING
ABNORMAL, YOU SAY
STILL, DON'T SAY IT SO PLAINLY LIKE THAT...
BUT, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO INVESTIGATE A DREAM ?
EH ? INVESTIGATE IT, YOU SAY...
IT'S AN ORDINARY DREAM, Y'KNOW ?
| THIS IS GOOD TIMING
WE'LL INVESTIGATE IT
CLATTER
...KASUMI ?
IF YASHIRO COMES IN AFTERWARD, IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM
YOU JUST LITERALLY HAVE TO SLEEP

...GOOD GRIEF
TO THINK THAT I'M EVEN BEING ORDERED TO SLEEP...
I CAN SLEEP ON MY OWN, SO IT'S OKAY !!
LOOK HERE
...BUT IF YOU CAN'T SLEEP, SHOULD I STILL BRING OUT THE MEDICINE ?
AS FOR YASHIRO, THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONLY SHE CAN DO
M.H
COME NOW ...YASHIRO
LET'S BEGIN, SHALL WE
"BO~~" SHIP'S DEEP HORN SOUND

AS YOU WOULD EXPECT OF THE MITSURUGI ZAIBATSU
GULP
...LIKE, I MEAN, IT FEELS AWKWARD TO EVEN PUT OUR OWN FOOTPRINTS ON THE FLOOR, DOESN'T IT
IT'S NICE THAT MITSURUGI-SAN INVITED US, BUT... WE'RE TERRIBLY OUT OF PLACE HERE, HUH...?
TA-... TAKERU-CHAN...
IF IT'S WINE, WE HAVE ROMANEE-CONTI, CHATEAU MOUTON-ROTHSCHILD, DOM PERIGNON LA BAY...
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK ?
WHAT LANGUAGE IS THIS !?
LE-... LET'S SEE, LEEEEET'S SEE ...
...SHALL I TAKE YOUR ORDER ?
HAWAWA WAWAWA WAWAWA WAWAWA WAWA...
BA!
YEEES (GASP) !?
BA! = STRONG SUDDEN REALIZATION
...
...
YES WHATEVER YOU WANT
WHATEVER, RIGHT ...?
I WE MAY ORDER...
CLATTER!
SHIHAININ-SAN (HALL MANAGER) ...

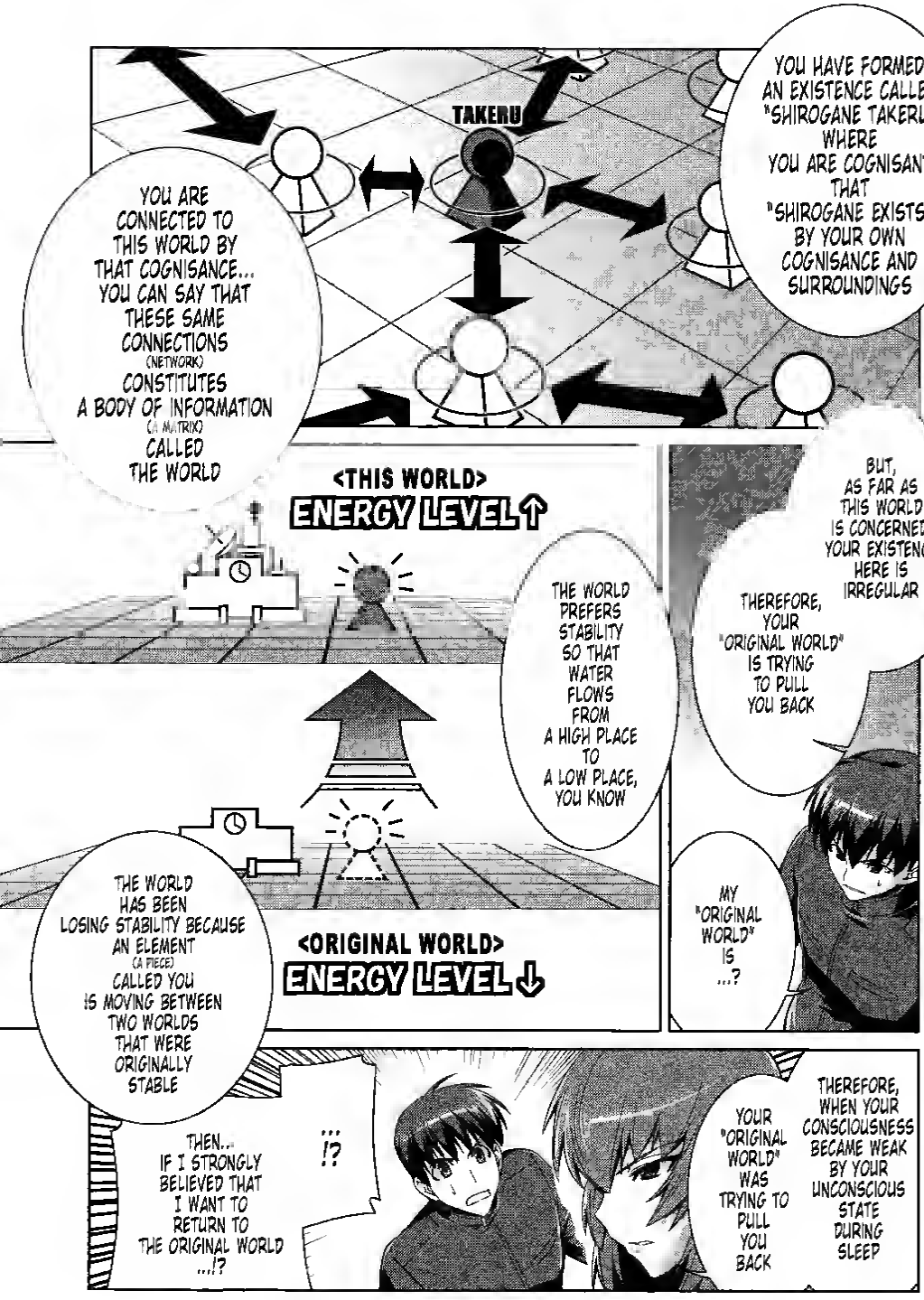
THEN ...
BAA
TWO EXTRA LARGE BEEF BOWLS, WITH EXTRA BROTH AND EGG !!
AAN
H-... HEY TAKERU-CHAN !?
WHAT ? MEIYA HAS HER WAY OF DOING THINGS, AND WE HAVE OURS
RIGHT ?
TH-THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
IF OUR WAYS WERE TOO DISCONNECTED, WE WOULDN'T GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER, YOU KNOW
BUT, WE MANAGE TO, SOMEHOW, DON'T WE
... ...

THIS CRUISE SHE (MEIYA) PREPARED IS HER STYLE, DON'T YOU THINK
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS IS THE REASON WE CAN GO AT OUR OWN PACE HERE
BUT...
...
...
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WORRY, KAGAMI-SAMA
EH (GASP) !?
WE TAKE SUPREME PLEASURE TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF OUR GUESTS
LET ME HUMBLY SAY... WE ARE ALSO A MINOR PART OF THE MITSURUGIS
SMILE
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
SHIHAININ-SAN (MR. MANAGER) YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING!
...I'M AT YOUR SERVICE

AND FOR THE SOUP, MISO SOUP, PLEASE
...
...
AND TSUKEMONO (PICKLED VEGETABLES) MADE OF BOK CHOY FOR THE HORS D'OEUVRES BE ALL RIGHT ?
THEN WILL TEA FOR THE DRINKS
GOOD MORNING ... HOW WAS IT ?
THAT'S MY LINE, Y'KNOW
...WELL, IF IT WAS A DREAM, I WAS ABLE TO SEE IT, BUT...
...
...
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT WAS A DREAM ?
EH ?
むくっ
ARISE!
...
HRM
...
UFHI...
KA-KASUMI
...
...
TUS
MOBILE
OTTER
TUS

YOUR BRAIN WAVES ... WE LOST THEM MID-WAY
...
...
EH ?
NOD
...DON'T TELL ME, WERE YOU AWAKE THE WHOLE TIME ...?
SLIP!
— I CAN CONCLUDE THIS
WHILE YOU WERE "DREAMING"
WHAT YOU WERE ENVISIONING WASN'T A DREAM ...
SHIROGANE — YOUR EXISTENCE WAS IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" YOU HAVE TALKED ABOUT
WORLD ....!?
THE ORIGINAL ...
— !!?

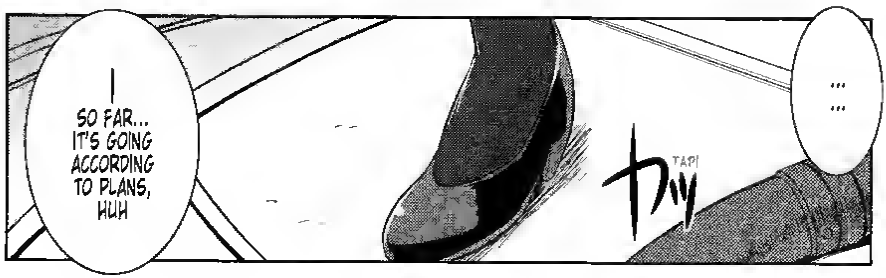
I WONDER, DO YOU REMEMBER THE DISCUSSION WE HAD BEFORE ?
YOU ARE THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE POSSIBILITY TO MOVE THE WORLD AT A PIVITOL POINT IN TIME BY THE SWAY OF YOUR INTENTIONS
THERE'S NO SUCH THING, I TELL YOU!
...! YOU'RE SAYING MY INTENTIONS ARE THE CAUSE !?
RIGHT NOW... TO SAVE "THIS WORLD" IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN TO GO BACK TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !
YOU KNOW THAT BEST YOURSELF, RIGHT ?
... ABOUT SWAYING ?
... REALLY
ASSUMING THAT'S THE CASE, THEN...
THE CAUSE SEEMS TO BE A PARALLEL DISORDER OF "THIS WORLD" AND "THE ORIGINAL WORLD", HUH
UMM HM..
... ?
FOR YOU TO EXIST IN THIS WORLD AS YOU, THERE ARE 3 FACTORS
YOUR OWN INTENTIONS
HUMAN COGNISANCE OF THE SURROUNDINGS
| THIS WORLD ITSELF


TAKERU
YOU HAVE FORMED AN EXISTENCE CALLED "SHIROGANE TAKERU" WHERE YOU ARE COGNISANT THAT "SHIROGANE EXISTS" BY YOUR OWN COGNISANCE AND SURROUNDINGS
YOU ARE CONNECTED TO THIS WORLD BY THAT COGNISANCE... YOU CAN SAY THAT THESE SAME CONNECTIONS (NETWORK) CONSTITUTES A BODY OF INFORMATION (A MATRIX) CALLED THE WORLD
<THIS WORLD>
ENERGY LEVEL↑
THE WORLD PREFERS STABILITY SO THAT WATER FLOWS FROM A HIGH PLACE TO A LOW PLACE, YOU KNOW
BUT, AS FAR AS THIS WORLD IS CONCERNED, YOUR EXISTENCE HERE IS IRREGULAR
THEREFORE, YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" IS TRYING TO PULL YOU BACK
MY "ORIGINAL WORLD" IS ...?
THE WORLD HAS BEEN LOSING STABILITY BECAUSE AN ELEMENT (A PIECE) CALLED YOU IS MOVING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS THAT WERE ORIGINALLY STABLE
<ORIGINAL WORLD>
ENERGY LEVEL↓
THEN... IF I STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT I WANT TO RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...!?
...!?
YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" WAS TRYING TO PULL YOU BACK
THEREFORE, WHEN YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS BECAME WEAK BY YOUR UNCONSCIOUS STATE DURING SLEEP

YOUR COGNISANCE OF BEING IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" SLIGHTLY EXCEEDS YOUR COGNISANCE OF BEING IN "THIS WORLD," I SUPPOSE
IF THAT IS SO
IT WILL BE MUCH EASIER TO RETURN YOU TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" NOW
I CAN RETURN ...?
TO THAT WORLD... CAN I ...?
TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...!
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT BEYOND THAT

EH ?
WHAT I SAID JUST NOW IS A DEDUCTION AT BEST
NOW, SUPPOSE YOU RETURNED TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD"... WE DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF SHAPE YOU'LL RETURN IN
AT WORST, EVEN SOMETHING LIKE JUST YOUR SPIRIT RETURNING, AND NOTHING MORE...
TH-THAT WOULD BE TROUBLE-SOME !!
WOULDN'T IT ?
SO, DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN GO BACK JUST NOW
... ...
UNDER-STOOD ...
THERE'S NO BETA
THERE'S NO WAR
TO THAT PEACEFUL WORLD WHERE I WAS ORIGINALLY FROM
... ...
I CAN RETURN... TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD...

THERE ARE THINGS THAT I STILL HAVE TO DO IN THIS WORLD ...
CLENCH!
FOR NOW... I CAN'T JUST YET
BUT
I DON'T EVER WANT TO GET SUCH A FEELING AGAIN
THIS TIME, FOR SURE, THE WORLD WILL BE SAVED... AND, ONE DAY...


I SO FAR... IT'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLANS, HUH
TAP!
... ...

!
...
BUT
FOR NOW, WE CAN'T SEND HIM HOME...
NOT YET
THE WORLD ... IS SEEKING STABILITY

NOW THEN, THE QUESTION HERE IS
GRR
OAN..
DO YOU KNOW... WHEN YOU, YOURSELF, BECAME SHIROGANE TAKERU ?
...
...
...HA ?

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EH ...!?
I... I'M GOING BACK ? TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"...
YOU'LL BE GOING BACK TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD," AND I'LL HAVE YOU RETRIEVE THAT FORMULA THAT MY COUNTERPART OVER THERE WROTE
IF THIS EXPERIMENT IS A SUCCESS, YOU WILL BE LIBERATED FROM YOUR PRESENT UNSTABLE STATE
AND FOR THAT REASON
STARTING TODAY, I'LL HAVE YOU SHARE THE SAME ROOM WITH YASHIRO
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THIS !!
...HAA !?

GOOD GRIEF
WHAT IS SENSEI EVEN THINKING...
...
...BUT
THIS IS ALSO SOMETHING NECESSARY SO THAT I MAY RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD...
ARISE!
SOMETHING... NECESSARY...
SU
...ISN'T IT... ?
SHIT!... SENSEI IS TEASING ME, NO DOUBT, ISN'T SHE !?
FMAP
IF SHE WERE SENSEI FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," SHE WOULD POSSIBLY DO THAT ...!
ZZZZ
BUT WHICH PART
GASP
!!?

GLANCE!
RO
LL!
...N
...
SILKY SMOOTH...
SHIT
(GASP)
AND SHE JUST HAD TO WEAR A BLACK NIGHTIE IN FRONT OF ME...
(GASP)
!!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BE CALM, SELF
!
THE OTHER PARTY HERE IS JUST A KID, ISN'T SHE
!!

AM I... NOT SEEN AS A MAN...?
...
...
だらだら
OH? YASHIRO-SAN?
...ISN'T THIS UNUSUAL
YASHIRO IS HAVING BREAKFAST AT THE PX THIS MORNING
...WELL, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS FOR THAT...
CAN I RETURN TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"... ...I WONDER
...
...

IF I CAN OBTAIN THE FORMULA THAT THE OTHER SENSEI FIGURED OUT, ALTERNATIVE 4 MAY BE ABLE TO PROGRESS QUICKLY...
ON TOP OF THAT, IF THIS IS CONNECTED TO MY RETURNING TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DO THIS
BUT, WHY IS KASUMI INVOLVED IN THIS...?
...FOR YOU
2A
!?
2A!

GO
THEY'RE DOING THAT "AAAHN" THING... THAT "AAAHN" THING...
ALL THIS TIME, I NEVER REALIZED ...BUT IT SEEMS YOUR FRIENDSHIP WITH YASHIRO HAS DEEPENED QUITE A BIT, HASN'T IT ...?
...HOU ...
YOU HAD ALL KINDS OF THINGS... ALL KINDS...
SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU DURING YOUR ENJOYABLE MEAL BUT...
WE WANT YOU TO GIVE US A DETAILED EXPLANATION, NO IFS ANDS OR BUTS, DON'T WE ...?
N-...NO IT'S NOT THAT YOU DID SOMETHING WRONG, BUT...
KASUMI... SORRY, BUT, RIGHT NOW, STUFF LIKE THAT IS...!
...DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG ?
?
SFX. HA! " A GASP OR INTER... ON DUE TO A (SUDDEN) REALISATION OR REVELATION
...I GUESS IT WAS WRONG
... ...
POW SMASH
EEYOWW
GYA AAA AAA AAA AAA
WAI-... WAIT A MINUTE, YOU GUYS... THIS IS SOME MISUNDER-STANDING...

AND THEY DEMANDED A DETAILED EXPLANATION !!
MIFFED!
...AND, YOU HAVE BEEN MAGNIFICENTLY BLESSED, HAVEN'T YOU ...
WELL, WHAT-EVER
•SHIROGANE STRONGLY WISHES THAT HE "WANTS TO RETURN"
•THE RECOGNITION OF SURROUNDINGS IS ADJUSTED TO ZERO
•"THE ORIGINAL WORLD" HAS A STRONGER POWER TO PULL SHIROGANE
ARE YOU READY ? THE OTHER DAY I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE THREE FACTORS THAT ALLOWS YOU TO EXIST
IN ORDER TO SEND YOU BACK TO YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD," IT IS NECESSARY TO SATISFY ANY OF THESE THREE CONDITIONS
AMONG THESE, YOUR OWN INTENTIONS CAN BE CONTROLLED TO SOME EXTENT, BUT NOT THE FORCE OF THE WORLD THAT IS TRYING TO PULL YOU BACK
...AND SO, THAT MEANS, WHAT REMAINS IS TO ADJUST THE "RECOGNITION OF MY SURROUNDINGS" ?
PRECISELY AND TO DO THAT, THERE'S THIS DEVICE
PRIOR TO BEING RECOGNIZED BY YOUR SURROUNDINGS, (THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU) YOU WILL GO BACK TO "A FOG OF PROBABILITY" STATE, SO TO SPEAK SOMETHING TO THIS EFFECT
...IT'S LIKE, I GET IT, AND I DON'T GET IT...
?
THEN, WHAT IN THE WORLD WILL KASUMI BE DOING ? IT'S LIKE, YOU HAD US LIVING TOGETHER ALL OF A SUDDEN...

UNTIL THIS EXPERIMENT SUCCEEDS, YOUR PRESENT UNSTABLE STATE WILL CONTINUE
IN THE MEANTIME, YASHIRO'S ROLE IS TO SECURE YOUR EXISTENCE
...?
FOR NOW, I CAN'T TELL YOU MUCH MORE THAN THAT
NOW THEN... WE'LL BEGIN
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY WORDS THAT CAN GIVE ME A LITTLE PEACE OF MIND !?
...I MEAN, AT LEAST LOOK AT MY EYES AND TELL ME THAT, PLEASE !!
...AT LEAST, DON'T DIE, WILL YOU
...THIS REALLY IS SAFE, RIGHT !?
SHIT... I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DO THIS ...!
STARE!

...A SKETCH-BOOK ?
...IT'S DONE
...WHAT IS SHE DRAWING ?
WELL THEN, HERE WE GO, SHIROGANE !
STRONGLY IMAGINE YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" !
Y- YES, MA'AM !!
SHOOM
SKREE
...THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...
...THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...!

FLASH
...?
RAISE

EH?
...
...
HUEH?

IT'S SUMIKA... IT'S THE REAL SUMIKA !
MOVE... TALK, WILL YOU ...!
BLUSH
AH... AUH...
AUUUUH ...
SU-... SU-...
SUMIKA ... !?
IF YOU'RE GONNA ENTER THE RESTROOM, YOU SHOULD LOCK THE DOOR PROPERLY, RIGHT...?
AH... HAHA
SUMIKA ...
SUMIKA
IT'S ME ! CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME !?
WHAT !? I'M UNABLE TO SPEAK WELL...
OTHERWISE ... EXPERIENCES LIKE THIS...
EH !?
...HU
HUEH .. HUEEEH

GRR
...STUPID TAKERU-CHAN
(GASP) !!
POW
A VA KAM (GASP) !!
WW!
HUM
MM
MM
MM
MM
MM
MM
MM

...GEHU (GASP)!!
I JUST A MINUTE, SHIROGANE!
BE SERIOUS, WILL YOU!
SE-...SENSEI!
I WENT BACK!
I WENT BACK, YOU KNOW!!
IT WAS UNMISTAKABLY "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," I TELL YOU!!
...YEAH, YEAH
THAT'S OBVIOUS, OKAY
SO, HOW WAS IT?
THUD!
FUOOSH!
HTSSSSH
...
...
I WASN'T...
I WASN'T ABLE TO DO ANYTHING...
EVEN THOUGH I WAS TALKING, DIFFERENT WORDS WERE COMING OUT OF MY MOUTH, AND
SUMIKA DIDN'T REACT TO ANYTHING ELSE...
I SEE... YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO INTERFERE WITH EVENTS OVER THERE, I GUESS...
IT SEEMS YOUR MATERIALIZATION WASN'T COMPLETE, HUH

I REMEMBER IT...
SUMIKA HAD SUCH A TROUBLED AND EMBARRASSED LOOK ON HER FACE...
AND SHE WAS ANGRY...
I'VE SEEN THAT EXPRESSION IN MY DREAMS MANY TIMES OVER, AND YET... WHAT THE HELL... WHAT WAS IT...
...
...
DAMN... IT'S THAT "I'M SUDDENLY HAVING A BAD EXPERIENCE" FACE...
TEAR
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, HAVEN'T YOU
...
SUMIKA...

...
...
SLAM!
ターッ
—EH?
!?
...KASUMI!?
WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW!?
SHOCK!

...
...
O-...OI
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT !?
OH MY... I TOLD HER TO SIT DOWN, BUT EVEN SO
I WONDER IF SHE'S UNABLE TO CONCENTRATE IF SHE DOES THAT
I'LL TELL YOU THAT MUCH FOR NOW...
HER JOB IS TO EXPEND EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS OF CONCENTRATION AND WILLPOWER
SENSEI
THAT STUFF KASUMI IS IN CHARGE OF; WHAT IN THE WORLD...
SHE SEEMS QUITE EXHAUSTED ...
...YES, MA'AM
WE ALSO HAVE TO LET YASHIRO RECOVER, SO... LET'S CALL IT A DAY
...AT ANY RATE, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS, UNLESS WE MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DEVICE

THANK YOU, KASUMI — YOU KEPT AT IT UNTIL YOU COLLAPSED, DIDN'T YOU
RUSTLE!
THIS EXPERIMENT ... I MUST LET IT SUCCEED NO MATTER WHAT, HUH...
...
...
JEEZ — ! IF YOU BECOME ANY MORE STUPID THAN THIS, WHAT WILL YOU DO — !
TAKERU-CHAN, WE'LL RIDE THAT ONE OVER THERE !
HEY, LOOK, TAKERU-CHAN IT'S HERE, YOU KNOW IT'S HERE !

I REMEMBER
I WANT TO RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD
AFTER ALL ...
hll
AUG!
SUMIKA'S FACE... SUMIKA'S VOICE...
ONCE AGAIN ...I WANT TO BE WITH SUMIKA ONCE AGAIN ...!

きゅっ
SQUEEZE!
...
...
...I CAN NO LONGER PUT THE BURDEN ON KASUMI, CAN'T I...
...YOU'RE READY, YOU SAY?
IN ONE SHOT...
UNDERSTOOD
I'M AS READY AS I CAN BE, TOO
I DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE ON THE HARDWARE SIDE, FOR NOW
THE REST DEPENDS ON YOU... ANYWAY, LET'S SUCCEED IN ONE SHOT

IF THERE'S A FAILURE IN TODAY'S EXPERIMENT, IT WILL DESTROY THE DEVICE
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SAY PRESUMPTOUS THINGS LIKE THAT, STOP IT IMMEDIATELY
... EH !?
THE PREPARATIONS ARE NOT PERFECTED YET... AND YOUR PRESENT SELF CAN'T REACH THE POWER...
THIS DEVICE CONSUMES ENORMOUS AMOUNTS OF ELECTRICITY JUST TO OPERATE, YOU KNOW
THE GUY WHO FLINCHES BY GIVING ONE EXCUSE OR ANOTHER WILL NOT TURN IN ANY RESULTS THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE
ANYWAY, YOU MAY AS WELL KNOW, THIS IS NOT AN EXPERIMENT THAT WE SHOULD DO TORPIDLY
... ...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT MAKE IT SUCCEED HERE AND NOW
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WILL SAVE THE HUMAN RACE, HUH ?
ONLY A MAN WHO CAN DIVE RIGHT IN, CARRYING A STRONG WILL, CAN ADVANCE AHEAD
IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T DO WHAT YOU CAN DO...

...I WILL ABSOLUTELY SAVE THIS WORLD, SENSEI
...
...
SENSEI... I REMEMBERED IT
I WANT TO DO WHAT I CAN... I MUST DO WHAT I CAN BECAUSE OF THAT...
AND, IN TIME... FINISH EVERYTHING HERE; AND THEN, IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" ...!

WHEN YOU GO OVER THERE, HAND THIS OVER TO MY COUNTERPART AND EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO HER
WHEN "I" SEE THE CONTENTS, "I" SHOULD BELIEVE IT, YOU KNOW

...WHAT'S THIS ?
...VERY WELL IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN TAKE THIS

YES, MA'AM!
...AVOID HUMAN CONTACT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, EXCLUDING ME
HOWEVER, INTERFERING WITH "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" MORE THAN NECESSARY IS MORE LIKELY TO CAUSE SOME SORT OF CONFUSION
SHIROGANE! YOU'RE GOOD TO GO, RIGHT!?
YES, MA'AM!!
GA
REMEMBER... IT WAS ONLY 3 YEARS AGO...
IT'S THE WORLD YOU LIVED IN ALL THAT TIME, ISN'T IT...!
CHUUNG
...POWER SUPPLIES FROM THE FIRST TO THE FOURTH ARE STABLE
THE OUTPUT IS NOT ENOUGH! PUT IN NUMBER 5!!

—HERE, THERE'S A SCHOOL THAT IS NOTHING LIKE THE BASE
THOSE DAYS WHEN I SIMPLY MADE A RACKET WITH EVERYONE...
SUMIKA IS NATURALLY NEXT DOOR TO ME...
AGAIN! NUMBER 6, WITHOUT HESITATION!
THOSE DAYS THAT I NEVER THOUGHT WOULD GO AWAY...
IF THIS SUCCEEDS AND I CAN SAFELY COLLECT THE FORMULA, ALTERNATIVE S WILL NOT GO INTO OPERATION ...
...

AND ...
I WILL FINALLY HAVE "THE 00 UNITS" (THE DOUBLE ZERO UNITS) COMPLETED ...!
FLASH
!!

RUS-
TLE!

AH ...
THERE'S ... THE TOWN ...
I AM... TOTALLY HERE ...!
...I MATERIALIZED
HA HA ... HA
AND MY HANDS...
CAN MOVE ...
MY FEET ...
SKRUNCH!
YOU DID IT ... YOU DID IT, I TELL YOU
I HAVE RETURNED ... IT'S "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !!
YOU'RE AWESOME, Y'KNOW, YUUKO SENSEI (GASP) !!

...
...
EVERYTHING IS... AS IT WAS BACK THEN...
WHAT THE HELL ... WHAT WAS IT ...
IT'S NORMAL ... TO CRY, YOU KNOW...
SEEING SUCH A DULL ... SIGHT ...!

...
...
THIS AROMA
...
THIS
ATMOSPHERE
...
...
I'M
BACK
!!
I...
CAME
BACK
!
!!

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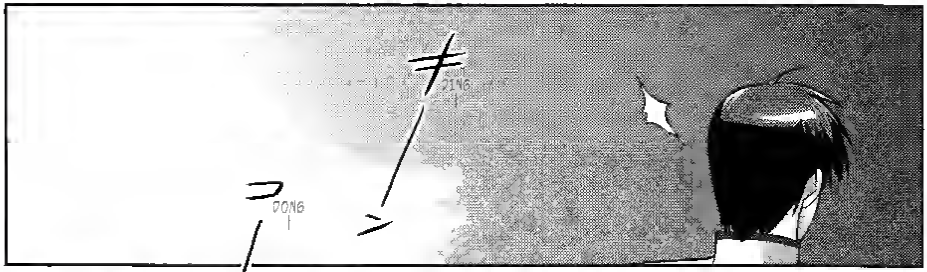


THE SUN HAS GONE DOWN QUITE A BIT ALREADY... THIS ISN'T THE TIME NOR THE PLACE TO BE LOST IN DEEP EMOTION
IF I DON'T HURRY... IF I DON'T GET IN TOUCH WITH YUUKO SENSEI WHILE SHE'S STILL AT SCHOOL, THIS WILL ALL BE FOR NOTHING!
ALERTNESS

PANEL 1 SIGN AT SCHOOL GATE
"HAKURYOU DAIFUZOKU HIIRAGI PRIVATE SCHOOL"
(私立 白陵大付属柊学園)

PHYSICS PREP ROOM
SHIROGANE ... RIGHT ?
YOU ARE —
STARE
"A PROOF STUDY OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL SPACE BASED ON THE CAUSALITY QUANTUM THEORY"
WHAT'S THIS ...!?
WHA- ...
SHIROGANE (GASP) !! ...IT IS YOU, RIGHT ?
Y-... YES, MA'AM
ARACK!
WHERE DID YOU GET A HOLD OF THIS !? CAN YOU TELL ME HOW YOU GATHERED THIS, SO I CAN SEND YOU FLYING THERE IN A FAST CAR !?
... ...
YOU REALLY WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED ME IF I HADN'T SHOWN YOU THAT, WOULDN'T YOU ...?
...! THERE'S CERTAINLY A POSSIBILITY... BUT...
THIS IS... NO IT'S SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT ...!?

SENSEI...
I HAVE AN ASTOUNDING STORY TO TELL AFTER THIS, BUT... WILL YOU HEAR ME OUT TO THE END ?
YOU SAID THAT YOU WERE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, RIGHT ?
I'LL KEEP QUIET AND LISTEN, SO TELL ME EVERYTHING
AH... THANK YOU VERY MUCH !!
...
...
CAN YOU STOP WITH THAT EXCESSIVELY POLITE MANNER ? YOU'RE GIVING ME THE CREEPS
SENSEI...
AND, WELL ...
YOU DO BELIEVE MY STORY, DON'T YOU ...?
BECAUSE OF STUFF LIKE THAT, IT'S THE REASON I CAME BACK...
...
...
HUU!...

...HU
HU HU HU HU HU HU HU HU...
AH — HAH HAH HAH HAH HAH HA !!
HIGH! I SAY... THIS GUY IS !
THIS IS THE GREATEST
SE-... SENSEI !?
THIS IS THE BEST... THE★BEST, YOU KNOW, SHIROGANE !!
!?
THIS IS WONDERFUL I'M A GENIUS, AFTER ALL N~~~~~~~~~ THIS IS THE GREATEST FEELING !!
SKWOO
SHEEE
THIS IS IT ! MY CAUSALITY QUANTUM THEORY WASN'T A MISTAKE, AFTER ALL !!
HEY... SE-SENSEI ...!?
ABI

NEVER-THELESS, YOU ARE, AREN'T YOU...
AH—! A GENIUS DID GOOD!
WHUD!
OH BY ANY CHANCE, HAS IT BEEN PILING UP?
I'M IN A GOOD MOOD, NOW. SHALL I LEND • YOU • A • HAND ♡?
ARE YOU EVEN A TEACHER!?
...
SQUEAK.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
THAT REMINDS ME... I WONDER, ARE YOU OKAY?
...SENSEI
YOUR LOOKS ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT
HUHU... WHAT YOU'VE BECOME PERFECTLY HANDSOME, TOO, HAVEN'T YOU

WHOPPER!
THE "SUBJECTIVE TIME," YOU SAY!
YOU ARE THAT SHIROGANE, AREN'T YOU...
WELL I'LL BE DAMNED
HOW A PHRASE LIKE THAT COMES OUT OF YOUR MOUTH!
...
...SHE'S SUCH A PAIN...
AS FOR THIS WORLD, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE?
...THE SUBJECTIVE TIME IS ABOUT... 3 YEARS
3 YEARS... IS IT
SINCE I ALSO WORK AS A TEACHER FOR THE TIME BEING, I'VE HAD MANY STUDENTS, AND
I HAVE SENT OFF ALL SORTS OF KIDS, BUT...
A CASE LIKE YOURS IS A FIRST... YOU WENT TO A DIFFERENT WORLD AND CAME BACK... DIDN'T YOU
...
...
WELL... IT'S ENOUGH TIME FOR A PERSON TO CHANGE, I GUESS...

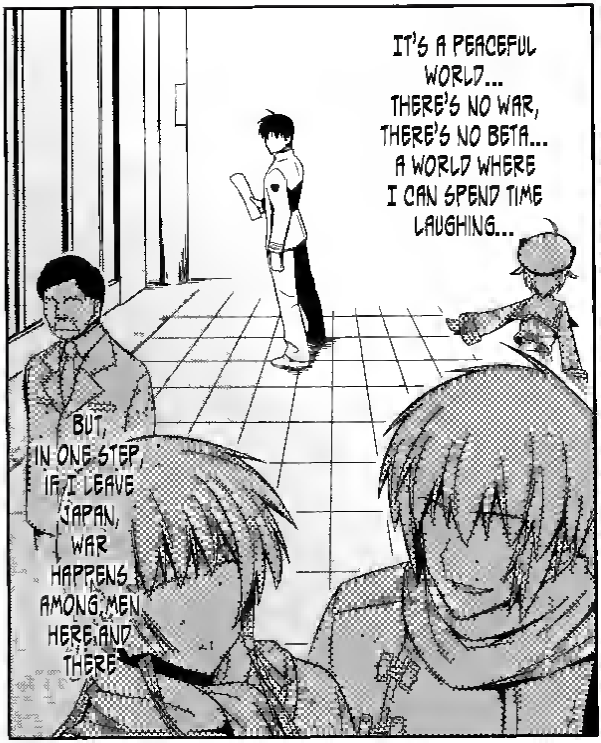
SHIROGANE ... DO YOU MISS THIS WORLD ?
YES, MA'AM ...
ARE YOU GLAD YOU GOT TO COME BACK ?
...YES, MA'AM
DO YOU WANT TO MEET WITH... ...KAGAMI AND THE OTHERS ?
YES, MA'AM ...!
TAKE MATTERS INTO YOUR OWN HANDS WITH ADAMANT DETERMINATION
DEVOTE ALL YOUR ENERGY TO GAIN WHAT YOU DESIRE
...I WILL GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE
YOU MOVE WORLDS THROUGH WILL-POWER... AND BECAUSE YOU CAN DO THAT, YOUR EXISTENCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION CAN CHANGE WORLDS... NO DOUBT

BUT... HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU REALLY MOVED THE WORLD WITH YOUR OWN WILL ?
THAT'S ...
WHAT YOU'RE ABLE TO DO, OR HOW IT TURNS OUT AFTER THIS...
THERE WILL BE MANY FACETS TO THAT HANGING BY THE STRENGTH AND ACTIONS OF YOUR WILL
BE STAUNCHLY AWARE OF THE WEIGHT OF THAT RESPONSIBILITY
...YES, MA'AM
NOW THEN...
ABOUT YOUR DESIRED NUMERICAL FORMULA... THAT'S RIGHT, HUH
I'LL HAVE IT FOR YOU SOMEHOW IN 3 DAYS
IT'S 3 DAYS, HUH ...WHAT DAY IS IT TODAY, OVER HERE ?
11
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30
IT'S NOVEMBER 26
UNDERSTOOD
IN THAT CASE, I'LL SEE YOU LATER
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU...
...WHEN IT'S READY
AH.. HEY
?

LET ME SEE YOU SALUTE FOR A BIT, WILL YOU
EH ?
... YOU DON'T LIKE TO ?
... ...
HAHA... NOT AT ALL
EMPHATIC
...IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME !
ALLY!

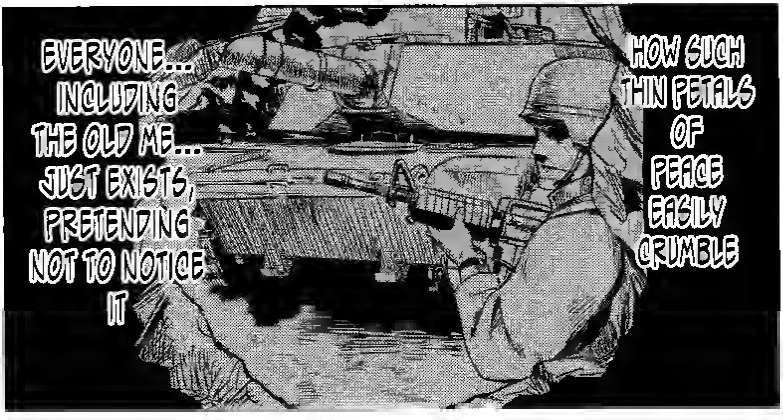
HUHU... DON'T YOU LOOK GOOD
SEE YOU LATER, 'KAY
...
...
I WONDER IF IT'S THAT "HONOR AND PRIVILEDGE TO BE A TEACHER" THING...
THAT FACE ... I WANT TO SHOW IT TO MARIMO, TOO
AN EXISTENCE THAT HAS STOOD OUT FROM THE RATIONALITY OF THE WORLD ...
HAS HE
IN SPITE OF BEING OUR STUDENT... HE HAS GONE QUITE FAR, HUH...

I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO HERE FOR THE TIME BEING...
IF I WAIT PASS THE DEADLINE, TAKING CARE THAT I DON'T MEET GUYS I KNOW...
THIS TIME, YOU'LL BE MATERIALIZED FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS. FINISH THE TASK DURING THAT TIME
...
...
SFX: HYUUUU + SOUND OF GENTLE WIND/GUST
BUH!?
LY NEWS


IT'S A PEACEFUL WORLD... THERE'S NO WAR, THERE'S NO BETA... A WORLD WHERE I CAN SPEND TIME LAUGHING...
BUT, IN ONE STEP, IF I LEAVE JAPAN, WAR HAPPENS AMONG MEN HERE AND THERE

CONFLICT INTENSIFIES

はっ
HA!


EVERYONE... INCLUDING THE OLD ME... JUST EXISTS, PRETENDING NOT TO NOTICE IT
HOW SUCH THIN PETALS OF PEACE EASILY CRUMBLE

...TAKERU ! TAKERU, HEY !
...
SWISH
SWISH
THIS WORLD IS THIS WORLD... THERE'S NOTHING TO COMPARE !
...AH
IT TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT TO COME BACK HERE, AND YET, WHAT AM I THINKING ABOUT !

MI-MIKOTO
(FEMALE VERSION)
...NO, IT'S NOT MIKOTO
(MALE VERSION)
!?
OH CRAP... I WAS TOLD NOT TO HAVE CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE, AND YET...
AH ?
!?
AH FINALLY YOU NOTICED
WHAT'S THE MATTER, TAKERU ? YOU'VE GOT A STERN LOOK ON YOUR FACE
MIKOTO, SORRY ! I'M BUSY I DON'T HAVE TIME TO CHAT WITH YOU !
OH DID YOU DO THAT BADLY ON THE TEST ?
YOU DID DO NOTHING BUT SLEEP IN CLASS, HUH !
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT ! SEE YA !
!!!
ABRUPTLY
TOO
I KNOW, TAKERU LET'S GO PLAY VALGERN-ON !
...HA !?
FOR TIMES LIKE THIS, THEY SAY CONSOLATION IS IMPORTANT ! BEING IN A RUSH ISN'T EFFICIENT, Y'KNOW ?
N-...NO IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT...

WA-... WAIT, MIKOTO!
IT HAVE TO SAVE THE WORLD... (BASE)!
WHAT YOU INTEND TO PLAY A GAME (DREAMCAST) WHEN YOU GET HOME, DON'T YOU
C'MON LET'S GO, LET'S GO!
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, GET A CLUE, WILL YOU!!
VALGERM -ON
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I PAIRED UP WITH YOU, HUH!
AH IT'S STARTING!
WON'T I BE RESPONSIBLE IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU...?
Height : 18.2m
Weight : 16t
Mobility : B
nsive : B
...WHY DID IT TURN OUT THIS WAY...
...IT'S STILL BETTER THAN TALKING DIRECTLY WITH OTHER PEOPLE, I GUESS...
SHIT SO IT WILL ONLY BE THIS ONE GAME, WON'T IT!
Ready!

V
ROAR
ENEMY CONTACT ACTIVE
(ENGAGE OFFENSIVE)
!
I'LL PIN HER DOWN HERE
!!

SHI-
...
...
...
BOOST

STRIKE!
BURST!
CLAA
ANG

WOOSH

YOU WERE DANGEROUS, TODAY, AYAMINE
ALL THE SAME, YOU LET ME WIN THAT CLOSE PROXIMITY BATTLE, DIDN'T YOU
THAT'S NOT TRUE ...YOU'RE STILL MUCH MORE SUPERIOR IN HANDLING THE NIGINATA, (LONG SWORD) MITSURUGI...
IF YOU SAY SO, THEN I'M HONORED
...
...
I'LL BE... HEADING BACK

MITSURUGI
...
PAUSE
...I WONDER IF ...THE SNOW FALLS ON THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
EH ?
...?
... ...
...IT'S NOTHING

SQUEAK!
Jasmine Kei Sama
...
...
...NAOYA

ATSUGI IMPERIAL ARMY BASE
SAME AREA
URBAN COMBAT PRACTICE GROUNDS
POW
WHAT WAS THAT
WASN'T THAT GUY A DIVERSION !?
THAT'S NOT GOOD
EACH OF US WILL BE CRUSHED BEFORE THE SIEGE HERE IS COMPLETED... THIS IS UNFOLDING TOO QUICKLY !
SHIT ! O3 ATE IT !!
THIS IS RIDICULOUS
NO MATTER HOW MANY 3RD GENERATION MECHAS THE OTHER SIDE HAS, A SINGLE MECHA
!?
EWFF
KRLAAAST

A SHIRANUI (SEA FIRE) (TYPE 94) ...
ARE ...
ARE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE REGIMENTS ...
MONSTERS ...!?

episode:17

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CLACK!

カン

カキーン

KLANG

CAPTAIN SAGIRI ...

...LIEUTENANT (FIRST LIEUTENANT) KOMAKI

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK DURING THE EXERCISE

IT APPEARS YOU WERE EXTREMELY THOROUGH IN COMPLETING IT, TODAY...

...THE FACT IS I WANTED TO FEEL THE TEXTURE OF WHAT I WAS CHEWING ON A BIT MORE

FOR THAT I CAN'T SAY IT WAS PERFECT ...AFTER ALL THERE IS NO OTHER WAY BUT TO ADJUST DURING ACTUAL COMBAT

...STILL, FOR THAT I COOLED DOWN THE MOXIE OF THESE GUYS HERE (OUR COLLEAGUES AT THE ATSUGI BASE) A LITTLE DON'T YOU THINK

...
...
...THEY SHOULD BE AWARE OF THAT, TOO
THE PROTECTION OF THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL ISN'T SOMETHING ONLY WE (THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL DEFENSE REGIMENT) BEAR
...
...
IT'LL BE WARM IF THE CLOUDS CLEAR UP A LITTLE MORE, 'THOUGH
IT'S THE SAME WEATHER AS USUAL, HUH...
SKREE
THAT'S NOT NECESSARY... APART FROM THAT, THE STATUS ?
HOWEVER, WE DO NOT HAVE TIME TO WAIT FOR AN ANSWER ANYMORE
...IT SEEMS THE LETTER WAS DELIVERED
THE THAW IS NIGH
BE ALERT
COMMUNICATE THAT TO EVERYBODY
BY THE TIME THE SNOW STOPS, SUNLIGHT WILL SHINE UPON THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL AGAIN
SIR !
IF THIS IS THE SITUATION, IT WILL BEGIN TO FALL THREE DAYS LATER
THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL WAS COVERED BY A SNOW CLOUD ON ONE SIDE
SO IT SEEMS

YOU WIN
AH
THAT WAS A GOOD GAME!
...AFTER 3 YEARS, I HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW WONDERFUL THESE SENSITIVE CONTROLS WERE, HAVEN'T I...IT'S MUCH SIMPLER THAN THE HANDLING OF THE TACTICAL MACHINE, BUT..
BUT, I WONDER ... IF I CAN'T TOTALLY GET INTO IT LIKE THE OLD DAYS ...
... TAKERU?
HM... AH YEAH, SORTA!
I DO GET FIRED UP FOR A TAG-TEAM BATTLE, AFTER ALL, HUH!
BUT, THERE WAS A STRANGE FEEL TO YOUR MOVEMENTS TODAY, Y'KNOW? WAS IT A NEW TECHNIQUE?
FOR THE PRESENT ME, PULLING A TRIGGER MEANS ...
TO KILL THE OPPONENT BEFORE ME... DOESN'T IT ...

HEY, MIKOTO ...
HM ?
HAVE YOU
BEEN TO A COUNTRY THAT WAS HAVING ... A WAR ?
EH ? WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN
...NEVER MIND IT'S NOTHING !
SORRY, MIKOTO I'M GOING HOME FOR TODAY ALREADY !
AH... TAKERU !?
OPEN
... ...

IT'S A PEACEFUL WORLD...
BUT, WHO'S FIGHTING TO DEFEND THIS PEACE ? WHO'S SUPPORTING IT ?
EVEN IF I LEAVE JAPAN IN ONE STEP, WAR HAPPENS EVERYWHERE, EVEN IN THIS WORLD... HOWEVER, BEING CONVINCED THAT PEACE IS GIVEN UNCONDITIONALLY, EVERYONE MERELY WASTES IT WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING
IN THE WORLD OVER THERE, FOR BETTER OR WORSE... EVERYONE DESPERATELY LIVES EVERY DAY ALONGSIDE WITH DEATH... THEY, THEMSELVES, UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF WINNING
... ... I SHOULD BE GLAD ...
I'M ABLE TO COME BACK TO MY ORIGINAL HOME ...TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD... AND YET...
HAHA ...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I'M COMPLETELY DYED BY THE COLOR OF THE WORLD OVER THERE ...

THE PARK NEAR MY HOUSE ...
I'VE COME TO THIS PLACE, HAVE I...
...MY MEMORIES...
... ...
I WANTED TO PROTECT YOUR MEMORIES, TAKERU
THAT'S THE REASON WHY I LEFT THIS PLACE
AN IMPORTANT PLACE ...
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED... IS IT...
... TAKERU-CHAN ?

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TAKERU-CHAN ...
YOU STILL HAVEN'T GONE HOME, YET ?
KUN.

SU-
...
...!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK DUMB-FOUNDED...
SUMI-
...KA
...?
SUMIKA IS... RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES ...!
?
THIS ISN'T GOOD
BEAR WITH IT! ORIGINALLY, YOU HAD TO AVOID HAVING CONTACT ...!
POW!
BUBEH !?
WHAT'CHA DOIN' SUDDEN-
...

OH CRAP!!
UH...
AH FINALLY, YOU'RE BACK TO NORMAL!
HERE, THIS BAG! HELP CARRY IT!
WH-... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT...
SLURP
IF... IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT...
...
...
...
...
CABBAGE AND... GROUND MEAT?
I TOLD YOU I WOULD MAKE DINNER, RIGHT?
BY THE WAY, THE MENU IS A SECRET, 'KAY!
BY ALL MEANS, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW, I'LL TEACH IT TO YOU, 'THOUGH!
AH...HAHA
I'VE EATEN THIS ...I'VE HAD THIS BEFORE!
THE STUFF THAT BECAME MINCED MEAT AND CABBAGE SOUP, AFTER SHE FAILED TO MAKE STUFFED CABBAGE!

...TAKERU-CHAN, ARE YOU OKAY ? YOU LOOKED KINDA DRAB EARLIER, Y'KNOW ?
...HEY, SUMIKA
YEAH ?
YOU SEE, I'VE ...
BEEN IN ANOTHER WORLD A LOT, LATELY
IN THE WORLD OVER THERE, I ENTERED THE ARMED FORCES, AND I BATTLE AGAINST ALIENS
MEIYA AND CLASS REP ARE THERE, TOO; AND WE TRAIN TOGETHER, YOU SEE...
...TAKERU-CHAN, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT GAMES, AGAIN !
IF YOU OVERDO IT, THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THAT AND REALITY DISAPPEARS, Y'KNOW ?
...THOSE GUYS WHO I KNOW; THEY'RE ALL OVER THERE
BUT... WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE WHO'S NOT THERE, Y'KNOW
...?
I WONDER ...
WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE WHO'S NOT THERE ...?

...TAKERU-CHAN ?
SUMIKA, MY BAD ! I REMEMBERED THERE'S SOMEPLACE I GOTTA BE IN A BIT !
EH... EEHH !? WHAT ABOUT THE BAG !?
スーパー ひこまろ
BAG: HIKOMARO SUPERMART (スーパーひこまろ "SUPA- HIKOMARO) ↗
SWIFT!
WAH !?
MY BAD... I CAN'T HANG ON TO THIS
...NJEEZ~~~
IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT... 'BE BACK IN TIME FOR DINNER...
SLIP!

ALTHOUGH YOUR HANDS ...
CAN BE RECKLESS, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ...
...EH ...?

DASH!
AH... TAKERU-CHAN !?
GRIP
WAS TAKERU-CHAN ...
...CRYING ...?
I WAS ABLE TO MEET WITH SUMIKA...! I WAS ABLE TO HEAR HER VOICE... FEEL HER WARMTH ...!
FOR NOW, THIS IS MY LIMIT... BUT...

AFTER ALL, MY WORLD IS HERE !
SUMIKA... ONE DAY, I WILL RETURN WITHOUT FAIL...
I WILL ABSOLUTELY WORK HARD WITH THESE HANDS....
TO GAIN THE FUTURE THAT WILL RETURN ME TO THIS WORLD ...!!
WHOOSH!
...?
TAP
TAP

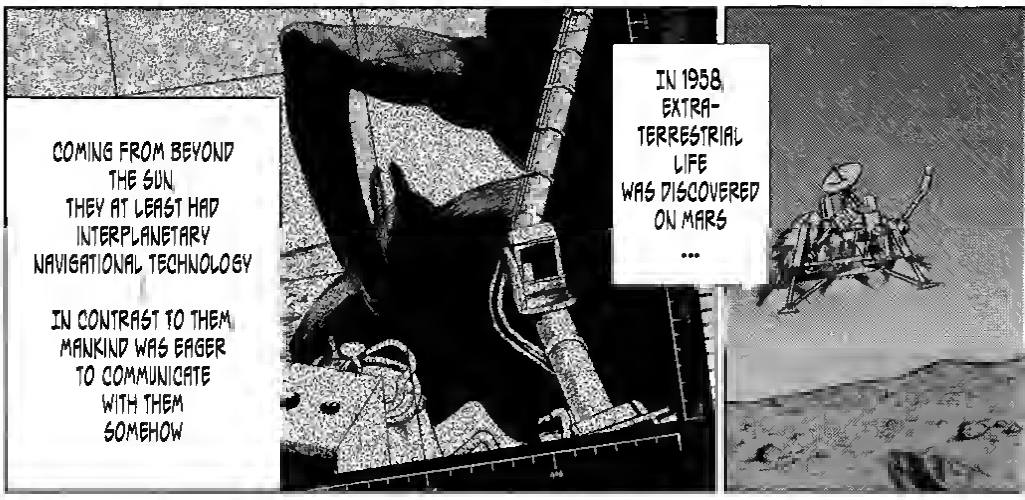
...TAKERU-CHAN ...?

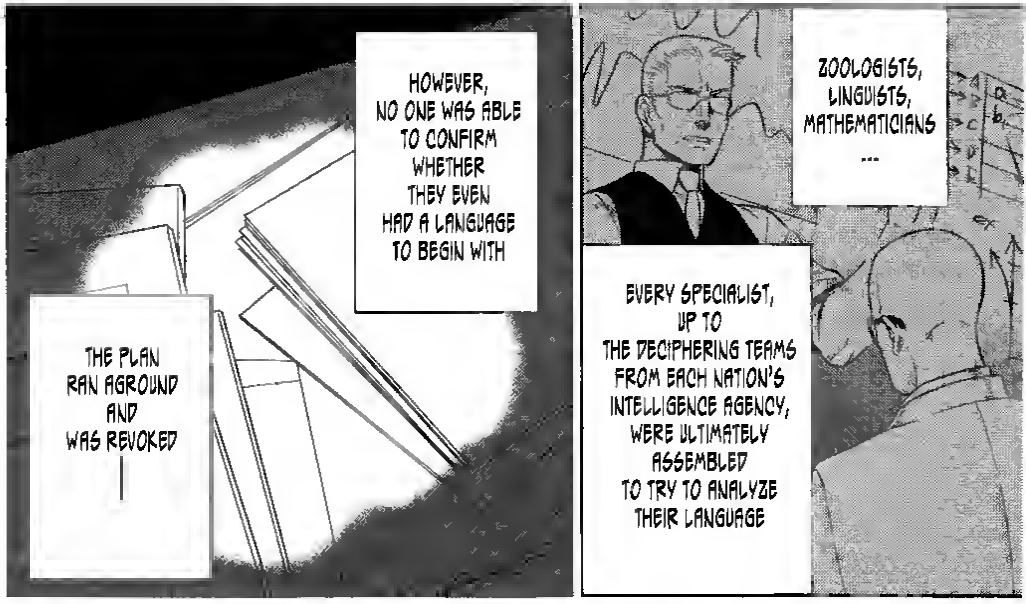
BASHUUN
N
...
I DID RETURN... DID I
...GOOD WORK
LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE ABLE TO GO BACK AFTER ALL THIS TIME, HUH

...I WAS DEFINITELY ABLE TO PASS ALONG THAT THING
IT SEEMS SHE'LL HAVE IT PREPARED IN 3 DAYS
AFTER A MERE 3 HOURS YOU'RE COMING OFF AN EXTREME PRECIPICE... SO HOW WAS IT ?
THE DATE ON THE OTHER SIDE WAS NOVEMBER 26, SO WHEN THE NEXT SHIFT
SLAM
ターン
KA-... KASUMI !?
AGAIN...!? WHY DOES SHE COLLAPSE WHENEVER THERE'S AN EXPERIMENT !?
—— !?

ALTHOUGH IT WAS ONLY A FEW SECONDS, YESTERDAY; TODAY, IT WAS UNDER THREE HOURS
...THAT'S WONDERFUL
SENSEI... WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT !?
WHY DOES KASUMI COLLAPSE WHEN WE DO THESE EXPERIMENTS !?
...?
...
...
FOR THIS EXPERIMENT ... NO
FOR ALTERNATIVE 4'S COMPLETION YASHIRO'S EXISTENCE IS NECESSARY AND INDISPENSABLE, YOU KNOW
OH WELL... I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO COLLECTING THAT THEORY, BUT
PERHAPS IT'S EASIER TO THINK ABOUT IT SLOWLY. HUH...
KASUMI IS ...?
ORIGINALLY, THE PURPOSE OF THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN WAS TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE BETA

— 1966, THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN COMMENCES


COMING FROM BEYOND THE SUN, THEY AT LEAST HAD INTERPLANETARY NAVIGATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
IN CONTRAST TO THEM, MANKIND WAS EAGER TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEM SOMEHOW
IN 1958, EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE WAS DISCOVERED ON MARS ...


HOWEVER, NO ONE WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM WHETHER THEY EVEN HAD A LANGUAGE TO BEGIN WITH
THE PLAN RAN AGROUND AND WAS REVOKED
ZOOLOGISTS, LINGUISTS, MATHEMATICIANS ...
EVERY SPECIALIST, UP TO THE DECIPHERING TEAMS FROM EACH NATION'S INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, WERE ULTIMATELY ASSEMBLED TO TRY TO ANALYZE THEIR LANGUAGE

— 1967, THE SACROBOSCO INCIDENT

THE INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT LUNAR BASE "PLATO 1"
HUMANS WERE RUSHED INTO A WAR SITUATION UPON MEETING BEINGS LIKE THOSE ON MARS
IN RESPONSE TO THAT, THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN SHIFTED TO THE SECOND STAGE WITH THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING BETA ECOLOGY MORE DIRECTLY
BETAS WERE CAPTURED, AND EVERY POSSIBLE METHOD OF EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS TOWARDS THEIR BODIES WAS CARRIED OUT
WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY TO ADAPT, THEY CAN FUNCTION UNDER SEVERE ENVIRONMENTS, SUCH AS MARS AND THE MOON
WITH SEVERAL KINDS OF BETAS NOW CONFIRMED, NEITHER THE CHARACTERISTICS FOR IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES COULD BE DISCOVERED... NOR THE EQUIVALENTS TO DIGESTIVE ORGANS OR GENITALIA COULD BE SPECIFIED
IN EXCHANGE FOR AN ASTRONOMICAL BUDGET AND A SAMPLE CAPTURE, WHAT WAS UNDERSTOOD WAS, BETAS ARE CARBON-BASED LIFE-FORMS, AND

THAT WAS ENOUGH TO MAKE HUMANS SHUDDER IN FEAR IN THOSE DAYS
THE FACT THAT SEVERAL TYPES OF SUCH RANDOM CREATURES FORMED A HIGHLY TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED SOCIETY, AND INVADED AND ATTACKED THE SPHERE OF THE EARTH
— 1973, THE BETA EARTH INVASION BEGINS
SINCE THE BETA HAD FORMED AN ADVANCED SOCIETY AND WERE SYSTEMATICALLY TAKING ACTION AGAINST HUMANS, THERE WAS THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY MUST CERTAINLY HAVE THOUGHT AND INTENTION
AND ON THAT ASSUMPTION, A SEMI-DESPERATE PLAN WAS INITIATED
AND THEN, FINALLY, A LANDING UNIT OF BETAS SETTLED IN KASHGAR, IN CHINA'S XINJIANG UYGUR AUTONOMOUS REGION
FOR THE PURPOSE OF READING THE BETAS' THOUGHTS, WHAT BEGAN IN A WOMB AT THE SOVIET SCIENCE ACADEMY... THE RESEARCH OF ARTIFICIAL ESPERS
(ESP EXPRESSERS)
(ESP HATSUDENTAI)
(ESP MANIFESTED INDIVIDUALS)
THAT WAS ALTERNATIVE 3
IN PLACE OF ALTERNATIVE 2, WHICH DID NOT PRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS, ALTERNATIVE 3 WAS PUT INTO OPERATION

...ARTIFICIAL ESPers ...?
IN SHORT, THAT MEANS, IF WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM, EVEN IF WE DISSECT THEM; AND IF WE CAN'T COMMUNICATE WITH THEM...
— THEN, WE SHALL READ THEIR MINDS
ORIGINALLY, AS A NATIONAL PROJECT, THE SOVIETS MADE ADVANCES IN THAT FIELD
FOR SEVERAL GENERATIONS, ESPers WERE SYSTEMATICALLY MARRIED OFF TO FELLOW ESPers, AND PRODUCED STRONGER ESPer OFFSPRINGS, YOU KNOW
...DON'T TELL ME, SENSEI...
THAT'S RIGHT ...
YASHIRO KASUMI WAS BORN —
NO... SHE IS ONE OF THE HUMANS PRODUCED BY THAT PROCESS

episode:18

AGE & MAKIJIMA AZUSA

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TALKEETNA, ALASKA
—
ALTERNATIVE 3 RESEARCH FACILITIES

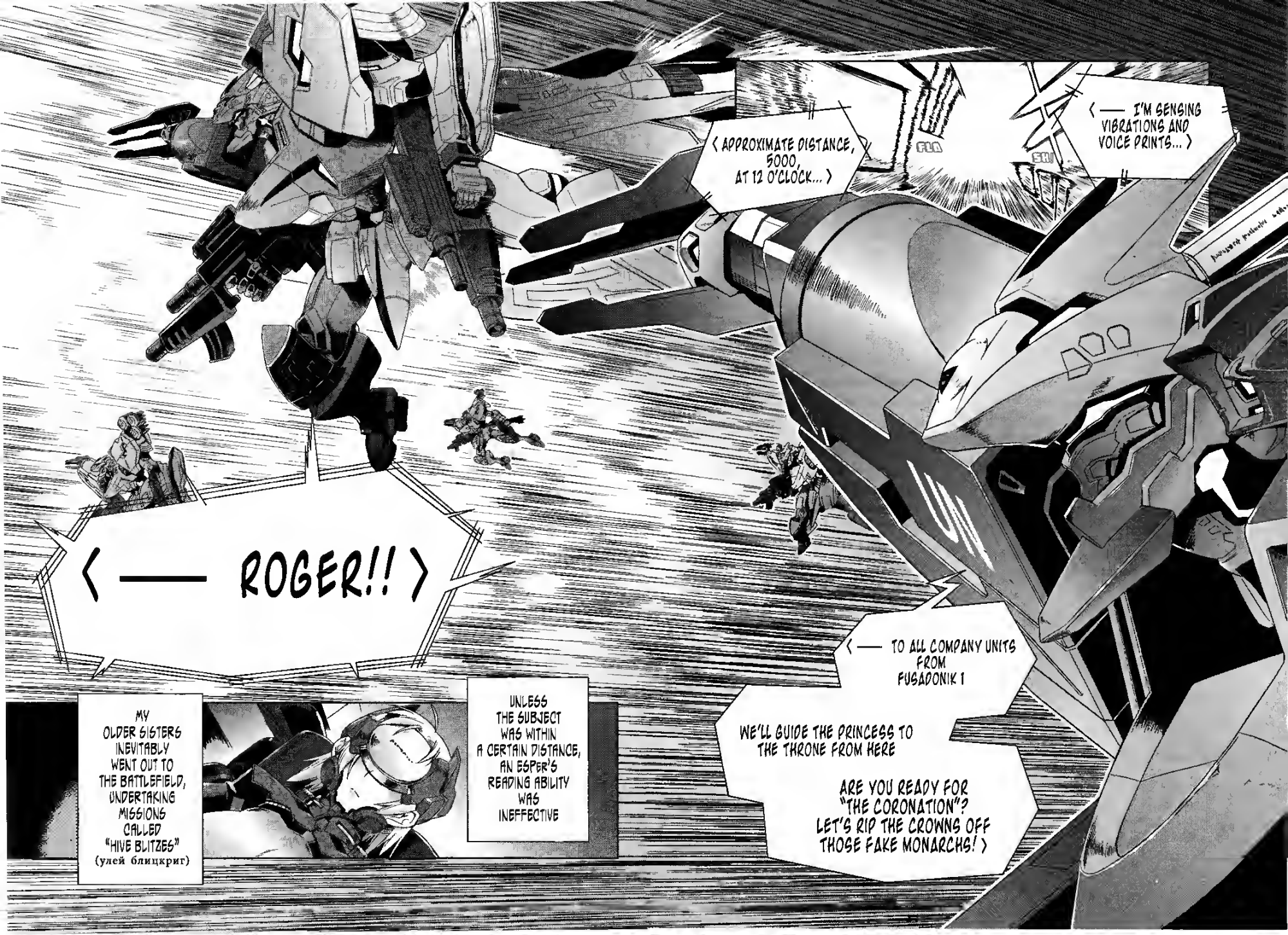
WE WERE BORN THERE

NOT INSIDE THE WOMBS OF MOTHERS, BUT IN TEST TUBES
—

ESPers
(ESP EXPRESSERS)
PEOPLE WITH ABILITIES THAT EXCEED THE ORDINARY MAN, SUCH AS MIND READING AND THOUGHT PROJECTION
TO BE ABLE TO PRODUCE COOPERATIVE EXPRESSERS FROM CROSS-BREEDING THE GENES OF THOSE WITH THE ABILITY
THEY
(THE ESPERS)
WERE "MATERIAL PROVIDERS" FOR THAT PURPOSE
CHILDREN, WITH SPECIAL TRAITS STRENGTHENED BY GENE MANIPULATION, WERE MASS-PRODUCED IN TEST TUBES
(VIA ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZATION)
I EXISTED AS ONE AMONG THEM

— хорошо...
(— Good...)
Следующее чтение, тестовый образец 521 ... Начало
(Next reading, test pattern 521 .. Begin)
WITH THAT ABILITY, IT WAS OUR JOB TO READ THE THOUGHTS OF THE BETA AND INVESTIGATE THEIR INTENTIONS
"READING" I
THE ABILITY TO READ AN ENTITY'S THOUGHTS AS A "PICTURE," AND ITS FEELINGS BY "COLOR"

— хорошо... нет проблем
(Good...No problem)
Начиная с завтрашнего дня, мы добавим несколько параметров и проверить вас ...Вы можете выйти, сейчас
(Starting tomorrow, we'll add more parameters and test you...You may come out, now)
2882
47—
815
— 33
13
4132
53
724
TREM
STAFF
BLE
AT THAT TIME, THE COLOR I SAW WAS SOMETHING I UNDERSTOOD ABOUT MUCH LATER; THE FEELING CALLED FEAR
AMONG MY SISTERS OF THE SAME GENERATION, MY ABILITY WAS BY FAR THE BEST
I WAS ABLE TO ACURATELY READ THE THOUGHTS OF THE OTHER PARTY MORE PROFOUNDLY


〈 —— I'M SENSING VIBRATIONS AND VOICE PRINTS... 〉
〈 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE, 5000, AT 12 O'CLOCK... 〉
〈 —— ROGER!! 〉
〈 —— TO ALL COMPANY UNITS FROM FUSADONIK 1
WE'LL GUIDE THE PRINCESS TO THE THRONE FROM HERE
ARE YOU READY FOR "THE CORONATION"? LET'S RIP THE CROWNS OFF THOSE FAKE MONARCHS! 〉
UNLESS THE SUBJECT WAS WITHIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE, AN ESPER'S READING ABILITY WAS INEFFECTIVE
MY OLDER SISTERS INEVITABLY WENT OUT TO THE BATTLEFIELD, UNDERTAKING MISSIONS CALLED "HIVE BLITZES" (улей блицкриг)

AS A RESULT,
IN EXCHANGE FOR
A SURVIVAL RATE OF
6 PERCENT
THE MISSIONS
PROVED THAT
THE READINGS SUCCEEDED,
AND THAT
THE BETAS HAD THOUGHTS
HOWEVER,
THE ONLY THING THAT
WAS ESTABLISHED
WAS THE FACT THAT
BETAS
DO NOT CONSIDER
HUMANS
AS LIVING ENTITIES
EVENTUALLY,
ALTERNATIVE 3
WAS CANCELED
BEFORE
I WAS
RECRUITED TO
THE BATTLEFIELD
1995
THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
UNIVERSITY,
THE APPLIED QUANTUM
PHYSICS RESEARCH
BUILDING,
THE TEMPORARY
HEADQUARTERS FOR
ALTERNATIVE 4
...I'M
KOUDZUKI,
THE PERSON IN
TOTAL CHARGE OF
ALTERNATIVE
PLAN
NUMBER
4
SINCE I HAD
TO SHOW THEM
THE DATA...
I MADE SURE
I HAD THEM
DEAL WITH
ABILITY AND
SUITABILITY
ISSUES
AND
...EVEN
SO,
WELL...
CREAK/

THE ONE THEY SENT IS EXTREMELY SMALL, ISN'T SHE ...
I WONDER IF SHE ANNOYED THEM ?
SO, WHAT'S YOUR NAME ?
ちっ
SMA
LL
GRAB
ガッ
...DO I HAVE TO BEGIN WITH A LECTURE ABOUT THE IRREVERSIBILITY OF TIME ?
GOOD GRIEF, THOSE GUYS... (MY COLLEAGUES)
I MEAN, IF YOU CAN'T TALK TO HUMAN BEINGS, HOW ARE YOU TO TALK TO THE BETA !

Трис-...та
(TRIS-...TA...)
.....
...Сес-...ти-...
(...SES-...TI-...)
Мое имя...?
(MY NAME...?)
AND I WASN'T ABLE TO READ HER FEELINGS
AT THAT MOMENT, JUST FOR AN INSTANT... THE COLORS IN THAT PERSON'S HEAD WERE COMPLEX AND CONFUSING
WAS PRODUCED ARTIFICIALLY ... !?
KASUMI ...
WITH THE REALITY OF MANKIND'S EXTINCTION APPROACHING, NOW... ONE CANNOT SAY HOW ETHICS SHOULD BE
WAR IS AN AFFIRMATION TO ANY SORT OF HEARTLESSNESS ... ISN'T IT
THAT... MAY BE SO, BUT...
... ...
BUT ...!!
NO WAY... ISN'T THAT HUMAN EXPERIMENTATION !!?
THAT'S RIGHT...
CULTIVATED IN AN ARTIFICIAL WOMB, NEVER EXPERIENCING THE EMBRACE OF A MOTHER
YASHIRO IS THAT SORT OF CHILD

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I SHOULD SAY THIS BUT... FORTUNATELY
THE PLAN HAD SHIFTED TO THE FOURTH STAGE BEFORE KASUMI WAS DEPLOYED INTO COMBAT
BESIDES READING AND FORMING A COUNTERPART TO A SUBJECT, THERE'S HER ABILITY TO DO WHAT'S CALLED "PROJECTION"...
... PROJECTION ?
THE ABILITY TO CHANGE A SUBJECT'S OWN THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS WITH IMAGES
IN ALTERNATIVE 3, WHILE PERFORMING READINGS ON THE BETA
IMAGES OF ALL THE "PEACE" THAT MANKIND CAN THINK OF WERE CONTINUOUSLY PROJECTED TOWARDS THEM, BUT... THEY WERE COMPLETELY UNRESPONSIVE
WHETHER THEY HAVE NO CONCEPT OF "PEACE" TO BEGIN WITH... OR THEY IGNORE THE PROJECTIONS BECAUSE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE HUMAN BEINGS AS A LIVING ENTITY...
IN ANY CASE, DESPITE THE DOWN-AND-DIRTY EFFORTS OF THE HUMAN RACE, AT THAT STAGE, THAT WAS ABOUT THE ONLY THING WE UNDERSTOOD ABOUT THE BETA
... ...

IT IS TO COMPLETE "THE 00 UNITS" (THE ZERO-ZERO UNITS)
THE ZERO-ZERO ... UNITS ... !?
FLASH!
THE PURPOSE OF ALTERNATIVE 4
... ...
AND SO, WITHOUT PRODUCING A DECISIVE BLOW, ALTERNATIVE 3 WAS ALSO REQUISITIONED BY THE FOURTH PLAN
BEING A RESULT OF ALTERNATIVE 3 IT'S THE REASON WHY YASHIRO IS HERE
FROM HERE COMES ALTERNATIVE 4
!!
THAT'S RIGHT... WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, I HARDLY KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE 4
WHAT ON EARTH IS ALTERNATIVE 4 ... !?

WHAT'S THAT !?
IF WE HAVE THAT, CAN WE WIN AGAINST THE BETA !?
...I'M DOING IT FOR THAT REASON, YOU KNOW
THIS PARALLEL CIRCUITRY AND IS BILLION SEMICONDUCTOR STUFF ...
THAT'S SOMETHING LIKE A ROBOT ...
AS OF NOW, FOR WHAT I HAVE TOLD YOU, THIS HERE IS AS FAR AS I GO
THIS IS FAR ENOUGH
EH ?
WHA- ...
WA-WAIT A MINUTE, PLEASE !! IT GETS CRUCIAL FROM HERE, DOESN'T IT !
I DIDN'T SAY I WOULD TELL YOU EVERYTHING FROM THE START, RIGHT ?
EVEN OUR CONVERSATION THUS FAR IS OF HIGHLY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION OF PREPOSTEROUS LEVELS, YOU KNOW ?
THA-... THAT MAY BE TRUE, BUT ...!!

I CAN BUILD GARGANTUANS LIKE THE TACTICAL MACHINES, AND YET, I'M UNABLE TO MAKE A PALM-SIZED PARALLEL CIRCUIT OF 15 BILLION SEMICONDUCTORS !?
THE FOURTH ALTERNATIVE PLAN THAT WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING... ALSO KNOWN AS ALTERNATIVE 4, HAS SHIFTED TO THE NEXT STAGE
ONE STEP AWAY... I WAS ONE STEP AWAY, YOU KNOW... I WAS ABLE TO MAKE MY THEORIES, AND YET... !
THIS YOKOHAMA BASE WILL BE REQUISITIONED BY THE NEXT PLAN, ALTERNATIVE 5
THIS ISN'T A JOKE... EVEN I CAN'T GO ON FOREVER WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING !!
THERE'S NO WAY I'M GONNA SUDDENLY BE TOLD ONE DAY THAT IT'S THE END WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING ...!!
...THAT'S RIGHT THE BRAINS IN THOSE CYLINDERS ARE CONNECTED TO SOME PLAN TOO, RIGHT !?
DOES THAT MEAN EVEN THAT IS WHERE KASUMI'S ABILITY IS NEEDED
...
YOU... YOU MAY BE UNEXPECTEDLY FIT TO BE A SCIENTIST, HUH
EH ...? WHAT IS IT ALL OF A SUDDEN...

RATHER THAN CONSIDERING THE FEELINGS OF OTHER PEOPLE, YOU GIVE YOUR OWN INTERESTS PRIORITY, DON'T YOU
WHA- (GASP) ...
YO-... YOU'RE WRONG
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT !!
TO ME, AS SOON AS ALTERNATIVE 4 CAN POSSIBLY ...!

SHIT ! WHAT AM I THINKING ...! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST, KASUMI IS KASUMI, ISN'T SHE !
CARING ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT IN ITSELF DOESN'T MEAN THAT I CAN TREAT IT IN THE NEGATIVE ...!
...
...SHIROGANE, WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE (TO THE BASE)

THE ONE WHO PROVED THAT YOU WERE NEITHER AN AGENT PROVOCATEUR NOR A MENTAL CASE ...
AND THAT WHAT YOU WERE SAYING WASN'T A DELUSION WAS YASHIRO
!
...
!!
SO ...
THAT'S WHAT THAT WAS... WAS IT...
AND THE FACT THAT I CAN BE HERE IN THIS WAY...
AT LEAST THERE IS A SUFFICIENT REASON FOR ME TO BELIEVE IN YOU.. ALTHOUGH, IT'S A REASON THAT ONLY I CAN UNDERSTAND
WAS ALSO THANKS TO KASUMI, WAS IT...

PATICULARLY IN YASHIRO'S CASE, SHE EXCELS IN THE POWER TO CONTINUOUSLY CAPTURE AN IMAGE THAT WAS CAUGHT ONLY ONCE
THAT'S WHY YASHIRO'S POWER IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR THIS EXPERIMENT
...
...
ESPERS POSSESS STRONG MENTAL POWERS THAT ARE INCOMPARABLE TO ORDINARY PEOPLE
HOWEVER, CONTINUOUSLY USING THAT POWER CONSUMES ENORMOUS AMOUNTS OF WILLPOWER AND EMOTIONAL STRENGTH
IF YASHIRO LOST YOU, YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T COME BACK TO "THIS WORLD"
YASHIRO'S POWER TO CAPTURE YOUR IMAGE IS YOUR LIFELINE ...FOR THAT REASON
IN ORDER TO REDUCE THAT BURDEN, AND TO BE ABLE TO PULL THAT LIFELINE EFFICIENTLY
IT WAS NECESSARY TO STRENGTHEN YASHIRO'S MENTAL BOND WITH YOU
KASUMI'S POWER IS... MY...
...THAT'S WHY YOU TOLD ME TO SPEND TIME (LIVE TOGETHER) WITH KASUMI, HUH...

TAKE A LOOK OVER THERE — ON THE FLOOR
?
...
...
...THE RESULTS ARE CERTAINLY COMING OUT
YOUR SEVERAL SECONDS UP TO NOW BECAME SEVERAL HOURS, THANKS TO HER

EH ...
THIS PICTURE... IS ME ?
THIS IS YOU, RIGHT ? HERE...
THIS IS YASHIRO'S WAY OF DOING THINGS... THIS IS THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY FOR THAT CHILD TO CAPTURE A GOOD IMAGE...
... ...
BUT STILL — IT'S CUTE, DON'T YOU THINK ?
EVEN IF SHE HAS SPECIAL ABILITIES, SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A TALENT FOR DRAWING, HUH...
THIS WAY, YASHIRO MADE SURE NOT TO LOSE SIGHT OF YOU
SHE DESPERATELY MADE SURE NOT TO FORGET ABOUT YOU BY CONTINUOUSLY DRAWING YOUR IMAGE...
— I SEE ...
THIS IS HOW SHE DREW A PICTURE OF THE GAME GUY, TOO... SHE READ IT FROM MY MIND, DIDN'T SHE...

I SEE ...
SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS...
THANK YOU... KASUMI ...
RUSTLE
KA-... KASUMI !?
AH ...
...AH ...
DID SHE WAKE UP !?
SINCE WHEN
DID SHE HEAR OUR CONVERSATION JUST NOW!?
ALTERNATIVE

O-... OI, KASUMI !?
...IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT... LET'S DO TODAY'S REPORT ANOTHER DAY
EH ?
YOU'RE SUCH AN OBLIVIOUS, TORPID DULLARD, AREN'T YOU... YASHIRO IS STILL A GIRL, NO MATTER HOW SHE WAS BORN, YOU KNOW ?
SINCE IT WILL TAKE 3 DAYS BEFORE THE NUMERICAL FORMULA IS PREPARED, YOU CAN TAKE THE DAY OFF TOMORROW
IN THE MEANTIME, YOU MAY SPEND YOUR TIME FREELY ! THAT IS ALL... YOU'RE DISMISSED !!
LOOK DON'T BE AN AIRHEAD ...RUN AFTER HER, QUICKLY !!
AH...
Y- YES, MA'AM (GASP) !!

...
...
SHIT...
I CAN'T FIND HER
ANYWHERE
!!
THAT STUFF
I WAS TOLD ABOUT
NOT LETTING GO
AN IMAGE ONCE
SHE'S CAPTURED IT...
SHE KNOWS
WHEN I AM CLOSING IN
ON HER, I GUESS...
ZE
ZE HA
ZE ZEHA = HARD BREATHING GASPING
RATHER THAN
CONSIDERING
THE FEELINGS OF
OTHER PEOPLE,
YOU GIVE
YOUR OWN INTERESTS
PRIORITY,
DON'T YOU

NO MATTER HOW RIGHTEOUS I PERSONALLY AM, AND EVEN IF I DO THINK THAT... I AM PRACTICALLY HURTING KASUMI, AREN'T I...!!
WHAT AM I DOING... THIS IS JUST AS SENSEI SAID, ISN'T IT !!
DASH!
...(GASP) !!
PLEASE COME OUT...
KASUMI !!
...
...
SHE'S NOT HERE EITHER... ...IS SHE

HEY... WHERE DID YOUR MASTER GO TO ...?
PLAP!
...
...
KASUMI ...
CAN YOU HEAR I NO... CAN YOU SEE ME ...?
HM ! ...
I'M NOT UPSET
I'M NOT UPSET
COME BACK
COME BACK
COME BACK
...THERE REALLY ISN'T ANYTHING FOR ME TO BE UPSET ABOUT
NOT A SINGLE THING
KASUMI... THERE ARE THINGS I WANT TO ASK YOU
I YOU DO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT SUMIKA, DON'T YOU ...?
IT'S NOT COINCIDENTAL... THAT YOUR FEATURES OVERLAPS WITH HERS... ISN'T IT ?

I...
REMEMBERED
THEM
THE THINGS
ABOUT
SUMIKA
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHY, BUT
THE MOMENT
I RETURNED TO
"THE ORIGINAL WORLD"
AND SAW SUMIKA'S FACE,
ALL MY MEMORIES OF
HER
SUDDENLY CAME
RUSHING BACK
UP UNTIL
THAT POINT,
THE MEMORIES
THAT WERE GONE
FROM INSIDE MY HEAD
SEEMED TO
SUDDENLY
BE EMBEDDED
HER VOICE...
HER WARMTH,
HER
THOUGHTS AND
FEELINGS...
AND...
MY
THOUGHTS
AND
FEELINGS
OF
HER...
...
...

IF YOU CAN CAPTURE THE MEMORIES THAT I HAVE FORGOTTEN... I WANT YOU TO TELL ME
THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"... THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"...
THERE MUST BE A LOT OF IMPORTANT THINGS THAT I'M FORGETTING
I SIMPLY CANNOT BELIEVE THAT IT IS ALL COINCIDENCE AND GROUNDLESS SPECULATION
I BEG YOU ... KASUMI

...
...
...I THINK WE SHOULD WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER
BEFORE WE CAN FORESTALL THEM, WE SHOULD MAKE OUR MOVE
THERE'S ALSO THE POSSIBILITY TO PUT ON AIRS, HOWEVER... ANY FURTHER TRENDS FROM THE UNITED STATES AND THE MAN IN QUESTION IS A CONCERN
IF THAT'S THE CASE, ISN'T IT BEST TO SET IT ABLAZE IMMEDIATELY?
AT THAT MOMENT AT A CERTAIN PLACE AT THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
WHY IS THAT?
CURRENTLY, THERE ARE FREQUENT EARTHQUAKES IN THE MOUNTAINS OF THE CHUBU DISTRICT..... THE INTERNAL IMPERIAL FORCES ALSO SEEM TO BE AMID DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE RESCUE OPERATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS
HOWEVER, REALISTICALLY, OUR PRESENT IMPERIAL FORCES DO NOT HAVE THAT KIND OF ENERGY TO SPARE
WE ALREADY HAVE ARRANGEMENTS PLANNED IN RELATION TO EACH INSTITUTION WITHIN THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL
WE'RE IN A SITUATION WHERE IT CAN BE INITIATED AT ANY TIME BY OUR DIRECTION HERE
...HMM
THE RESPONSE AND SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE CLEAR, DOESN'T IT
THAT DAMN TANUKI (SLY RACCOON DOG) SAKAKI
.....ANYWAY, WE'LL HOLD BACK TO MINIMIZE DAMAGE FOR OUR SAKE... THAT SAID, IT'S BEST THAT WE ALLOW THEM TO EVICT THE INHABITANTS

...HOWEVER, IF WE LOOK AT JUST THE FACTS, IT WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO US, AS FAR AS OUR JUST CAUSE IS CONCERNED
IT SEEMS THEY HAVE INCREASED THEIR ENEMIES AS A MATTER OF COURSE
TO FORCE A CRISIS ON THE PEOPLE IN CONTEMPT OF HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, THE SHOGUN... IF YOU DON'T CALL THIS ARROGANT, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT !!
THOSE GUYS THINK IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE !!
SLAM!
THEY'RE ALREADY BEYOND REDEMPTION
I WILL DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THAT MAN MYSELF ....
TUMBLE
PAUSE
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

...ARE THERE ANY PROBLEMS ?
ASSUMING WE CAN DIVIDE THE RESCUE EFFORTS, MOST OF THEM WILL BE THE CADET SQUADS...
THEREFORE... THERE WASN'T ANY REASON TO OPEN UP THE DEFENSE LINE
NO, SIR... HOWEVER, FOR SITUATIONS WHERE CITIZENS REFUSE TO EVACUATE, WHAT SHOULD WE DO ?
SO, LET THEM DIE ... IS THAT WHAT I SHOULD SAY ?
WHAT WE SHOULD DO NOW IS HELP AS MANY CITIZENS SURVIVE, EVEN IF IT'S ONE
...AS LONG AS THEY CAN LIVE, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN
AS LONG AS THEY CAN LIVE ...

episode:19
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THIS IS A FREE FAN TRANSLATION.
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ARTIST IF IT'S WITHIN YOUR MEANS.
POW
"— MOSHIMOSHI...YEAH...IT'S ME..."
(HELLO)
"...SO...
ABOUT THE TENGEN-YAMA DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS...
(MOUNT TENGEN)
— A DISPATCH REQUEST DID GO TO
THE CADET SQUADS, RIGHT?
RUSH
RUSH
"— I'M SORRY, BUT...
BECAUSE THEY ARE PRESENTLY OPERATING
UNDER MY DIRECT CONTROL...
I'M TROUBLED NOW THAT
THEY ARE TO BE TAKEN AWAY"
RUSH
"— WHO KNOWS...
I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOUR IMAGINATION...
...THAT'S RIGHT...
THEN...IN THAT CASE.."
RUSH
"...STEPS?
THAT IS SOMETHING
TO THINK ABOUT THERE,
IT SEEMS"
RUSH...

BA
"— BUT THEN..."
"WE MIGHT NOT HAVE A WHOLE LOT OF STEPS TO CHOOSE FROM—"
KRRA
AASH

WHY... AREN'T YOU...
AFRAID ...?
...HA!
AH... KASUMI !?
YOU CAME BACK !?
...YES
...IS THAT SO
THANK GOODNESS
DO YOU KNOW... WHAT I'M THINKING NOW ?
... ...
WELCOME HOME
THANK YOU
... ... YES

WHY... ARE YOU SO GENTLE ?
ARE YOU NOT... AFRAID OF ME ...?
...WHY ...
THE PEOPLE WHO FURNISHED THE GENES TO ME, THE PEOPLE WHO PRODUCED ME...
AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT MY ABILITIES ARE SCARED OF ME
AND YET, I DON'T SEE THAT SORT OF "COLOR" FROM YOU...
KASUMI ...?
KASUMI IS ... SCARY ?
... ...
I HAVEN'T EVEN CONSIDERED THAT ASPECT !
...
AND, SHE'S A RABBIT

...
...
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT SINCE AFTER THE EXPERIMENT ...
GRRRR
...FOR NOW, LET'S THINK ABOUT EATING SOME GRUB, SHALL WE
...
...
OH... ARE YOU TWO OFF TODAY ?
YOU TWO ARE TOGETHER A LOT, LATELY, AREN'T YOU... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN ?
...YOU'RE NOT IMAGINING SOMETHING STRANGE, ARE YOU ?
WELL... IF A MAN AND A WOMAN OF MARRIAGEABLE AGE ARE ALWAYS SEEN AS A COUPLE, THEN... YOU KNOW
HM ?
SHUTT!

...
...
YOU DON'T ... LIKE IT ?
DA — (GASP) KASUMI THAT'S OKAY !!
JIGGLE
TREMBLE
...SHE'S RATHER UNEXPECTEDLY ASSERTIVE, ISN'T SHE
— IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE IT, Y'KNOW
BUT... THAT'S OKAY ALREADY
...
...

...
...
...
...
EH ? AH... NO, NOT PARTICULARLY ...
YOU AND YOUR LADY FRIEND DON'T HAVE INDEPENDENT TRAINING, EITHER, RIGHT... AND IT'S WARM TODAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE
BY THE WAY, TAKERU... DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR TODAY ?
SCENERY... HUH...
LIKE GOING UP ON THE ROOFTOP TO ADMIRE THE SCENERY
IT MAY BE NICE TO TAKE HER OUT FOR A STROLL, SOMETIMES ...
I HAVE NEVER SEEN THE BEACH ...
CREAK!
...
...
THAT... MIGHT BE NICE...

TAKE THESE ... IT'S MY TREAT
SO, IT'S DECIDED
CLUNK
?
... N~~~~
IT CERTAINLY IS NICE WEATHER, ISN'T IT...
... ...
YOU'RE ... STRANGE

NOW, THEN... ARE YOU SCARED OF ME ?
...NO
THEN, WE'RE THE SAME, Y'KNOW...
BECAUSE, THERE ARE BEINGS THAT I'M PERSONALLY AFRAID OF
I SUPPOSE
WELL... SO TO SPEAK...
こくり
NOD
IS THIS ABOUT... OUR DISCUSSION EARLIER ?
... ...
OH, YEAH... ASIDE FROM THAT...
THOSE GUYS WHO WERE AFRAID OF YOU HAD A GUILTY CONSCIENCE AT HEART, Y'KNOW
THE FACT THAT YOU CAN SEE THROUGH THAT WAS SCARY TO THEM...
DO TRY FORGIVE THEM FOR THINKING THAT
AND MY SPECIAL ...
... ABILITIES ...
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO THIS WITH YOU, KASUMI
IT WAS HELPFUL THAT OBA-CHAN HAD A STRING, Y'KNOW

IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD, YOU SEE... I MADE A PROMISE TO YOU
I SAID... WE WOULD PLAY SOMETHING, AND FOR YOU... CAT'S CRADLE SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA
I THOUGHT
HMM... I FIGURED AS MUCH... YOU LACK SKILL, DO YOU ?
YOU'RE UNABLE TO REPRODUCE IT BY SEEING SOMEONE AT MY LEVEL, AREN'T YOU
.....
.....?
...
...
LOOK... DON'T STAND THERE WITH A BLANK EXPRESSION... TRY TO COPY ME, OKAY ?
INCIDENTLY, I WAS THE BEST AMONG THE SQUAD 207 OF "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" Y'SEE ?
... UUH
AS I RECALL, YOU TAKE THIS THUMB, HERE... AND YOU DO THAT, THERE...
SWIFT
...ALL RIGHT... LIKE THAT (GASP) !!

EPIC
HU-... HUH ...?
...
...
FAIL
...I'LL THOROUGHLY DO WHAT TAKES AS MANY AS TWO PEOPLE TO DO, OKAY...?
HU... HUHU... OCASSIONALLY, STUFF LIKE THIS HAPPEN, TOO...
YOU LACK SKILL
UGH OOF (GASP) !?
...YOU LACK SKILL
...NO I'M FINE
DON'T OVERDO IT, WILL YOU ? THAT STUFF IS CONSIDERABLY INTENSE, RIGHT ?
THAT REMINDS ME
I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU SLEPT LAST NIGHT, BUT... AREN'T YOU TIRED ?
...YES
...ALTHOUGH, BECAUSE THERE'S JUST A LITTLE MORE TO DO... ...JUST SO I CAN COLLECT THE FORMULA...

AND ...
IT'S LIKE THERE ARE THINGS THAT ONLY YOU CAN DO... SO...
AH (GASP) !?
WHEN I RETURN TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" ...THEN, ONCE AGAIN, I...
... ...
DON'T!
WA-... WAIT, WAIT... BECAUSE I REMEMBER IT NOW, OKAY !?
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, YOU DO THAT THERE, THEN...
NOW THEN, PULL OUT YOUR THUMB... AND PUT IN YOUR MIDDLE FINGER...
YOU DO LIKE THIS HERE... AND YOU TAKE YOUR FINGER IN THERE...
THAT'S RIGHT ...AND FROM HERE, YOU TURN IT OVER
YEAH THAT'S RIGHT... THIS IS IT
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT FROM HERE, KASUMI

...
AH
...
HOW'S THAT ? ARE YOU GLAD ?
...
YES
...
ALL RIGHT... NOW THEN, CARE TO TRY IT ONCE MORE BY YOURSELF THIS TIME ?
...
...
I REALIZE YOU DON'T WANT TO RUIN WHAT YOU MADE, BUT...
...
...

IT'S OKAY, Y'KNOW... IF YOU'RE ABLE TO DO IT BY YOURSELF PROPERLY, YOU CAN MAKE IT AGAIN, ANYTIME, RIGHT ?
...SO, LEARN AND MEMORIZE IT WELL, 'KAY ?
... AH ...
... ... YES ... !
ARE YOU WORN OUT ALREADY, KASUMI ?
HAHA... THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU TOTALLY LACK EXERCISE, DON'T YOU
... ... HEY... TAKE A LOOK, KASUMI

...
AH
...
THAT'S THE OCEAN...
WHILE THE BEACH ISN'T SANDY, YOU CAN AT LEAST HEAR THE SOUND
YES ...
THAT IS ... A REAL BEACH...
BUT, SOMEDAY, WHEN THERE IS PEACE... WE'LL GO THERE FOR SURE
YOU'RE A WALKING TOP SECRET, AND TAKING YOU OUTSIDE OF THE BASE IS, AS EXPECTED, IMPOSSIBLE
IF I COULD, I'D LIKE LIKE TO TAKE YOU TO A REAL ONE, BUT...

I REMEMBERED THEM... ...VARIOUS THINGS
I'M GLAD I GOT TO RETURN TO... "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"
HEY, UHM... KASUMI THANKS
MY BODY HAS RETAINED THE RESULTS OF MY TRAINING, AND YET MY "MEMORIES" ARE MISSING HERE AND THERE ...
MY MEMORIES OF SUMIKA FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" AND MY LAST MEMORIES OF "THE PREVIOUS WORLD"...
SOMEHOW... THIS WAS SOMETHING I REALIZED, BUT...
...A DESIRE...
THAT IF... YOU HAVE A DESIRE, BELIEVE STRONGLY IN IT TO ACHIEVE IT... ACT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE IT
...YUUKO-SENSEI FROM "THE ORIGINAL WORLD, TOLD ME...
I BELIEVE I PLACE MY MEMORIES SOMEWHERE, EACH TIME I TRAVEL TO A WORLD

THAT'S DIFFERENT, RIGHT ?
NOT SOMETHING THAT SOMEONE DECIDED FOR YOU... SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO FOR YOURSELF
... FOR MYSELF ... ?
... ...
TO READ THE BETA'S THOUGHTS ...
...KASUMI, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ?
FOR ME
IT'S TO RETURN TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"... TO SAVE "THIS WORLD"
... ...
ALL THE THINGS I SHOULD DO... ...I INTEND TO DO THEM
IF I CAN ACHIEVE THE THINGS ONLY I CAN DO ...
WHEN THE EXPERIMENT BEGAN
I WAS UNEASY WHETHER I WOULD LOSE MY RESOLVE IF I RETURNED TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"
BUT, AS IT TURNED OUT... BECAUSE I WENT BACK TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD," MY FEELINGS OF WANTING TO SAVE "THIS WORLD" BECAME STRONGER
I CAN'T ABANDON EVERYONE IN THE SQUAD AND THE PEOPLE LIVING IN "THIS WORLD"
FLINCH
TO ... RETURN... ?

...BUT, THIS ISN'T MY WORLD
FOR AN INEVITABLY FLUSTERED PERSON... SHE CAN BE A TROUBLESOME, VIOLENT GAL, BUT...
SHE (SUMIKA) IS NOT IN "THIS WORLD"
BEING MY NEIGHBOR FOR A LONG TIME... WAS NATURAL, AND THE FACT THAT SHE'S NOT HERE... DOES MAKE IT SEEM LONELY, AFTER ALL...
IT SEEMS I HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING TERRIBLY IMPORTANT...
ALWAYS BEING TOGETHER SINCE WE WERE LITTLE KIDS...
BEING FIRST PLAYMATES... FIRST QUARREL-MATES...
AND ONCE I REMEMBERED IT
IT SEEMS MY OWN HEART HAD BEEN SPLIT IN TWO...
EVEN AS I TALK ABOUT HER, I REMEMBER VARIOUS THINGS
WHETHER IT'S A PROMISE WE MADE WHEN WE WERE LITTLE KIDS... OR THE TIME I CONVEYED MY FEELINGS TO HER...
...
...

I... DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT SORT OF THINGS ARE... THESE MEMORIES
"MEMORIES" ...
HM ?
BECAUSE ...I'M A MILITARY SECRET
.....IS THAT SO... THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT
THE FACT IS YOU HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT DUTY, DON'T YOU ...
EH ...?
IF YOU HAD SAID SOMETHING... YOU COULD HAVE TAUGHT ME ALL SORTS OF THINGS
...HEY WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ?
... ...
HOW 'BOUT A DRINK ?
SHUPP

WHAT... YOU NEVER HAD LEMON SODA BEFORE ?
YOU PUSH THIS LIKE SO, AND...
BOF
PUSH
...I'M WET AND STICKY
...AH! YEAH! ALTHOUGH, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO COPY ME TO THAT EXTENT... THERE PRACTICALLY WON'T BE ANY SODA LEFT...
... ...
HEY... KASUMI !?
RUMBLE
...BUT
I'M THE SAME ... AS YOU

THIS IS... A MEMORY ?
EVEN THIS IS A FINE MEMORY
ARE YOU HAVING FUN ? YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS, SO FAR, RIGHT ?
...
...YOU FINALLY LAUGHED
DON'T FORGET ABOUT PLAYING CAT'S CRADLE
AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT SEEING THE OCEAN
DON'T FORGET ALL... THE FUN THINGS, AND THE SAD THINGS, TOO
THESE... BECOME YOUR MEMORIES
GRIP!
...
...

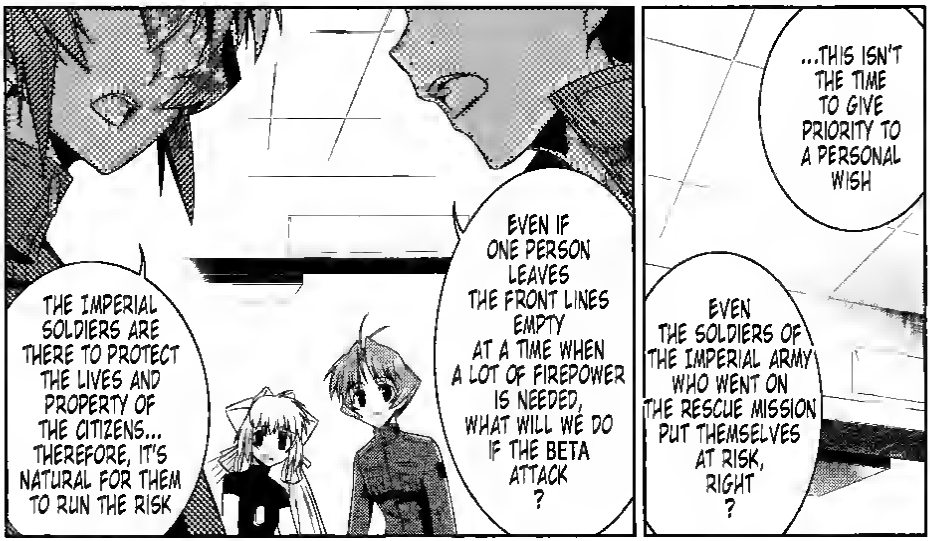
I...
HM ?
WON'T FORGET THIS SCENERY... FOR A LONG TIME
WHILE I WATCH THIS SCENERY... THE MORE I WON'T FORGET THE THINGS WE TALKED ABOUT
I HAVE ...
MY MEMORIES ...

TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET...
YEAH... KASUMI WILL BE EATING HER MEALS WITHOUT ME STARTING TODAY
...WHERE'S EVERYBODY ?
YASHIRO ISN'T WITH YOU TODAY ?
I THINK AYAMINE-SAN WILL BE COMING SOON
... ...
SAKAKI-SAN IS ...
?
OH ? TAKERU-SAN ?

ALL 14 PEOPLE WERE SAFELY PROTECTED ON SITE, WITHOUT MAJOR INCIDENT, AND
LIVE BROADCAST AT THE PARLIAMENT
LAST NIGHT, BEFORE DAWN, DUE TO THE INCREASED VOLCANIC ACTIVITY... THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S DISASTER RELIEF CORPS RESCUED DISSIDENT RESIDENTS WHO RETURNED AND REFUSED TO EVACUATE
.. AS FOR THE RESIDENTS WHO CONTINUE REFUSE TO HEED EVACUATION WARNINGS, THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR) HAS REACHED THE OPINION TO CEASE FURTHER ACTION, HOWEVER...
...!
UNGASINGSS!
THE IMPERIAL DIET (THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE) REFUSES TO ACCEPT THIS INACTION, AND WILL ASSUME THE PROTECTION OF OUR CITIZENS' LIVES AND PROPERTIES, FIRST AND FOREMOST...
THE PREVENTION OF THE FALLING HSST, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW OS... AND BEST OF ALL, IN A FEW MORE DAYS, I'LL OBTAIN THE NECESSARY EQUATION FOR THE 00 UNITS (THE ZERO-ZERO UNITS)
APPARENTLY, BAA-SAN, (THE OLD WOMAN / GRANNY) WHOM WE HAD RESCUED, WAS PROTECTED, AND... BECAUSE OF THIS, I SHOULD HAVE EARNED CONSIDERABLE TIME
...I SEE
THE RESCUE ORDERS WE HAD IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" DIDN'T HAPPEN, DID IT...
IS THIS ABOUT... TENGEN-YAMA (MOUNT TENGEN) ?

BECAUSE OF THIS, THE FUTURE IS CHANGING AGAIN ... MANKIND IS GETTING CLOSER TO VICTORY !
... ... WHAT'S WITH YOU...
...WHAT HE'S SAYING PEOPLE WERE SAVED, RIGHT ? AREN'T YOU GLAD ABOUT THAT ?
... ... DON'T TELL ME, YOU... DON'T SERIOUSLY BELIEVE IN NEWS LIKE THAT, DO YOU ?
...IN SHORT, YOU MEAN THEY WERE FORCIBLY EVICTED, DON'T YOU ?
THE PRESENT IMPERIAL ARMY MAY NOT HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY AND SUCH FOR A HUMANITARIAN RESCUE OPERATION
IF YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, WHY ARE YOU WEARING THAT SMILE !?
THEY HAVE LIVED ON THAT LAND FROM THE START
THE PEOPLE WHO RETURNED TO THEIR HOMETOWN WELL AWARE OF THE RISK OF DANGER ...ARE BEING THROWN IN REFUGEE CAMPS
AND YOU THINK NOTHING ... OF THAT !?
SCRUNCH

...WHENEVER I SEE THAT, I BECOME KEENLY AWARE OF MY OWN DISAPPOINTMENT AS AN OFFICER...
...THEY ALL JUST WANT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMETOWN, AND YET
BEFORE THEY
THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN LOSE THE PLACE WHERE THEY CAN RETURN TO
...LET'S GO
WE MUST CHANGE THIS SITUATION
...YES, SIR
RUSTLE!
...THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES HAS INCREASED AGAIN IN THE SHORT RUN
EVEN IF THEY ARE COMING BACK FROM AN EVACUATION POINT, THEY MAY NOT EVEN BE EXPECTED TO MAKE A LIVING, DON'T YOU THINK ...


THE IMPERIAL SOLDIERS ARE THERE TO PROTECT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF THE CITIZENS... THEREFORE, IT'S NATURAL FOR THEM TO RUN THE RISK
EVEN IF ONE PERSON LEAVES THE FRONT LINES EMPTY AT A TIME WHEN A LOT OF FIREPOWER IS NEEDED, WHAT WILL WE DO IF THE BETA ATTACK ?
...THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO GIVE PRIORITY TO A PERSONAL WISH
EVEN THE SOLDIERS OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY WHO WENT ON THE RESCUE MISSION PUT THEMSELVES AT RISK, RIGHT ?

WHILE ANYONE CAN DO THAT AND SAY IT'S FOR THE SAKE OF THE COUNTRY
THEY'RE FORCING A BURDEN UPON HELPLESS PEOPLE
THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE POWER DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE THAT POWER !!
...
...
...AT A TIME LIKE THIS, IS THERE A WAY TO MAKE THAT AN EXCEPTION ?
FIRST OF ALL, WE'RE NOT THE IMPERIAL ARMY...WE'RE EISHIS (GUARDSMEN) FOR THE U.N. FORCES
...I REALIZE THAT... !
...
...
?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ? GRANT THE WISHES OF THE RESIDENTS ?
...WE CAN INCLUDE THAT, TOO !
カチャ
CLATTER
カチャ
CLACK
...IS THAT SOMETHING A GUY WHO IS FIGHTING A WAR THAT HAS TAKEN A HOLD OF HUMANITY'S EXISTENCE WOULD SAY (GASP) !!
BA
M

YOU'RE NOT SAYING THAT AS A RESULT OF GIVING PRIORITY TO CIVILIAN COMPLAINTS
YOU DON'T CARE WHETHER A MILITARY STRATEGY FAILS OR THE HUMAN RACE IS DESTROYED — ARE YOU !?
カッ
CRASH!
ミシャン
SMAASH
!?
AH... KEI-SAN !?
DASH!

...IS THIS... AYAMINE'S ?
Ayamine Kei Sama
OH CRAP... I WAS CARELESSLY LOUD
DID I SURPRISE HER... HM ?
TAKERU... YOU RUN AFTER AYAMINE
I'LL STRAIGHTEN THINGS UP HERE
RUSH!
UNDERSTOOD ... MY BAD... I'LL LET YOU TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE
...I SEEM TO HAVE MADE THOSE AROUND ME UNCOMFORTABLE, HAVEN'T I...
FORGIVE ME ...I DID NOT INTEND TO ARGUE WITH YOU
...THAT AYAMINE CAN RUN FAST...
I DON'T SEE HER ANYWHERE ANYMORE...
... ...
IT'LL BE BAD IF I DON'T RETURN THIS TO HER, WON'T IT...
TSU·SHIMA 津・島 ...
...SHUU 栽 ...JI治 ...?
津島萩治
IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL ...THAT ?
FLIP!
津島萩治

I A SUSPECTED LOVER OF AYAMINE !!
...UH-HMM ...DID HISTORY CHANGE IN THIS WAY, I WONDER...
Ayamine Kei
ALTHOUGH SHE HAPPENED TO SHOW THAT SORT OF BEHAVIOR IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" ...THIS IS NOT THAT AYAMINE...
NOW THEN, I WONDER WHAT SORT OF EXPRESSION I'LL GET FROM HER
IF THIS GUY DOESN'T RETURN THIS TO HER, THEN... WELL
SHE'S NOT HERE ...I GUESS
...OH ?
Ayamine Kei Sama
...AYAMINE ! CAN I COME IN ? MAY I ?
KNOCK
...WHAT THE HECK ? SHE DIDN'T OPEN THESE LETTERS
WAIT ...
DOESN'T THAT AYAMINE CARE TO READ WHAT'S INSIDE ?
SHE HASN'T OPENED THEM, AND YET THERE'S AN INSPECTION STAMP...?
...ISN'T THERE SOMETHING ODD ABOUT THIS ?
NORMALLY, WHEN MAIL IS DELIVERED TO THE BASE, THE CONTENTS ARE ALWAYS CHECKED UNLESS THEY'RE HIGHLY CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS
WAS THE INSPECTION STAMP APPLIED WITHOUT A REVIEW OF THE CONTENTS ...?

ARE THESE LETTERS SOMEHOW... DANGEROUS ...!?
Ayamine Kei
NO... AN INSPECTION LIKE THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE... DID SOME GUY WHO KNOWS ABOUT BREACHING MILITARY REGULATIONS DO THIS ON PURPOSE ?
...IF THIS IS SOME SORT OF CONSPIRACY AND SCHEME
IT'S POSSIBLY THE INTERVENTION OF THE ANTI-ALTERNATIVE FORCE THAT MIKOTO'S OLD MAN SPOKE ABOUT
I DON'T TELL ME, IS THIS SOMETHING THAT EVEN INVOLVES AYAMINE ...!?
HA!
AYA-
...
SUDDEN

GUH ...
SCA
IM!
...DID YOU SEE IT ...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, AYAMINE ...!
ARE YOU PICKING A FIGHT WITH ME OR SOMETHING ...OVER THIS LETTER ...!?
PRESS
PRESS
PRESS
PRESS
...IT'S BEST YOU DON'T KNOW
...BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU, SHIROGANE

MUV-LUV ALTERNATIVE 03

-SPECIAL THANKS-

PECTONG
須藤康英
冴疋 枢
凄鉄
テプラーマン
チャリボッコR
たけ(´¬`)ちゃっと

-COVER COLORIST-

チャリボッコR

DENGEKI COMICS

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ③

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XG WHAT'S IT ANTI-ALTERNATIVE IT WAS NOTHING BUT A DISCUSSION THAT I DID NOT UNDERSTAND, AND...*
IN THE END, WHAT WAS UP WITH THAT OLD MAN...
BA
EH!
...
...

*NOTES I TOOK A BIT OF LIBERTY WITH TAKERU'S DIALOG IN PANEL 6 FOR THE FINAL VERSION THIS IS PERHAPS A MORE LITERAL TAKE

WAKE UP, I TELL YOU TAKERU-CHAN!
UHN!...
BECAUSE IT'S A HOLIDAY, LEMME REST A LITTLE LONGER..
...SHMOOSHY?
SHMOOSH!
TA-...
もにゅっ
GROPE!
TAKERU-CHAN...?

ON ...
A SUNDAY... MORNING...
WHAT ARE YOU DO-
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE

THEN ...
BAA
A GYUUDON, (BEEF BOWL) EXTRA LARGE, EXTRA BROTH, WITH EGG ! FOR TWO !
AAN
API
H-... HEY TAKERU-CHAN !?
WHAT ? MEIYA HAS HER WAYS OF DOING THINGS, AND WE HAVE OURS
RIGHT ?
TH-THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
BUT, WE CAN DO IT, SOMEHOW, CAN'T WE
IF IT'S NOT WELL IN GEAR, WE CAN'T LIVE TOGETHER, YOU KNOW*
... ...

*NOTE: FOR SOME REASON, THIS SENTENCE CONFUSED THE HECK OUT OF ME, INITIALLY. A_A;

BUT...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS IS THE REASON WE CAN GO AT OUR OWN PACE HERE
THIS CRUISE SHE (MEIYA) PREPARED IS HER STYLE, DON'T YOU THINK
WE ARE SUPREMELY PLEASED TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF OUR GUESTS
EH (GASP) !?
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WORRY, KAGAMI-SAMA
...
...
LET ME HUMBLY SAY... WE ARE ALSO CIGARETTE BUTTS OF THE MITSURUGIs
SMILE
IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE
...I'M SORRY
YOU SAID IT SHIHAININ-SAN (MR. MANAGER) !

BUT...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS IS THE REASON WE CAN GO AT OUR OWN PACE HERE
THIS CRUISE SHE (MEIYA) PREPARED IS HER STYLE, DON'T YOU THINK
WE TAKE SUPREME PLEASURE TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF OUR GUESTS
EH (GASP) !?
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WORRY, KAGAMI-SAMA
...
...
LET ME HUMBLY SAY... WE ARE ALSO A MINOR PART OF THE MITSURUGIS
SMILE
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
...I'M AT YOUR SERVICE
SHIHAININ-SAN (MR. MANAGER)
YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING!

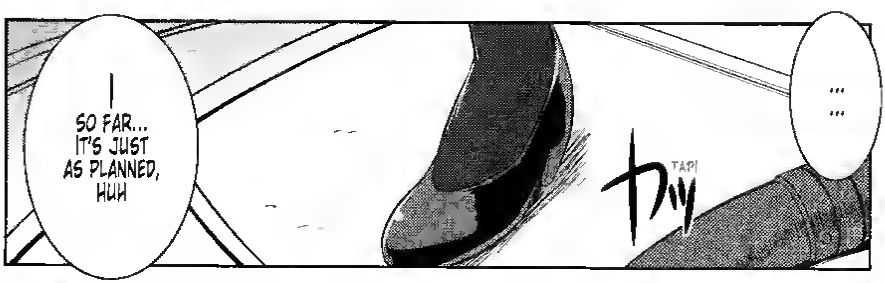
NOTE: IN THE REVISED PAGE, I BLACKED OUT THE MARGINS, KEEPING IT CONSISTENT WITH PAGES 22 AND 23.

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

*NOTE: THE TERM USED IN THIS CHAPTER IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT THAN THE ONE USED IN CHAPTER 4. HERE I OFFER ALTERNATIVE SYNONYMS THAT I CONSIDERED USING

I WONDER, DO YOU REMEMBER THE DISCUSSION WE HAD BEFORE ?
...! YOU'RE SAYING MY ANIMUS* IS THE CAUSE !?
YOU KNOW THAT BEST YOURSELF, RIGHT ?
...ABOUT SWAYING ?
YOU ARE THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE POSSIBILITY TO MOVE THE WORLD AT A PIVITOL POINT IN TIME BY THE SWAY OF YOUR DESIRES*
THERE'S NO SUCH THING, I TELL YOU!
RIGHT NOW... TO SAVE "THIS WORLD" IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN GOING BACK TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD" !
...REALLY
ASSUMING THAT'S THE CASE, THEN...
THE CAUSE SEEMS TO BE A PARALLEL DISORDER OF "THIS WORLD" AND "THE ORIGINAL WORLD", HUH
UMM HM..
...?
FOR YOU TO EXIST IN THIS WORLD AS YOU, THERE ARE 3 FACTORS
YOUR OWN OBJECTIVES*
HUMAN COGNISANCE OF THE SURROUNDINGS
THIS WORLD ITSELF

THERE ARE THINGS THAT I STILL HAVE TO DO IN THIS WORLD ...
FOR NOW... I CAN'T JUST YET
CLENCH!
BUT
I NEVER WANT TO TASTE SUCH A FEELING AGAIN
THIS TIME, FOR SURE, THE WORLD WILL BE SAVED... AND, ONE MORE...



NOTES: FOR PANEL 1, THIS VERSION FOLLOWS THE JAPANESE VERSION'S LAYOUT FOR THE TYPESET. EVEN IN THE JAPANESE VERSION, I FOUND IT TO BE TOO CROWDED ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PANEL.

IF I CAN OBTAIN THE FORMULA THAT THE OTHER SENSEI THOUGHT ABOUT, ALTERNATIVE 4 MAY BE ABLE TO ADVANCE QUICKLY...
ON TOP OF THAT, I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DO IT, IF IT'S CONNECTED TO MY RETURNING TO "THE ORIGINAL WORLD"
BUT, WHY IS KASUMI INVOLVED IN THAT...?
...BE MY GUEST
2A
!?
2A!

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA
GRR
GRR
GRR

NOTES: "AVAKAM" (OR "ABAKAMU" IN ROMANJI) HAS NO SIGNIFICANT JAPANESE MEANING THAT I'M AWARE OF. IT DOES SEEM TO BE A SANSKRIT WORD, THAT POSSIBLY MEANS "EMPTY", BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THAT. IT IS ALSO USED AS AN INCANTATION, MEANING "TO OPEN," WHICH IS USED TO UNLOCK DOORS IN THE GAMES "DRAGON WARRIOR II" AND "DRAGON WARRIOR III"...AND POSSIBLY "DRAGON WARRIOR I," BUT I HAVEN'T VERIFIED THAT, EITHER.

IF I GOT A LITTLE CREATIVE, I PROBABLY COULD HAVE TAKEN THE PHRASE BY SYLLABLES AND COME UP WITH SOMETHING LIKE "ABBA CAM," OR "I FOOL NOTHING," AND SUCH...BUT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN STRETCHING IT A BIT. ^_^

AFTER ALL, I
WANT TO RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...
I REMEMBERED IT
hii
AUG!
SUMIKA'S FACE... SUMIKA'S VOICE...
ONCE MORE ...I WANT TO MEET SUMIKA ONCE MORE ...!

AND ...
"THE 00 UNITS" (THE DOUBLE ZERO UNITS) WILL BE COMPLETED AT LAST ...!
KA
!

...
...
EVERYTHING IS... AS IT WAS BACK THEN...
WHAT THE HELL ... WHAT WAS IT ...
IT'S NORMAL ... TO CRY, YOU KNOW...
SEEING SUCH A DULL ... SCENERY ...!

PHYSICS PREP ROOM
SHIROGANE ... RIGHT ?
YOU ARE —
STARE
"PROOF AND STUDY OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL SPACE BASED ON THE LAWS OF CAUSATION AND QUANTUM THEORY"
WHAT'S THIS ...!?
WHA- ...
SHIROGANE (GASP) !! ...IT IS YOU, RIGHT ?
Y-... YES, MA'AM
ARACK!
WHERE DID YOU OBTAIN THIS !? IF YOU TELL ME YOU, LIKE, GATHERED THIS, I'LL SEND YOU FLYING IN A FAST CAR, Y'KNOW !?
... ... SHE REALLY DOES BELIEVE ME WHEN I HAD SHOWN THAT TO HER, DOESN'T SHE ...?
...! THERE'S CERTAINLY A POSSIBILITY... BUT...
THIS IS... NO IT'S SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT ...!?

NEVER-THELESS, YOU ARE, AREN'T YOU...
AH—!! A GENIUS DID GOOD!
WHUD!
...
OH MY BY ANY CHANCE, HAS IT BEEN ACCUMULATING?
I'M IN A GOOD MOOD, NOW. MAY I HELP YOU OUT THIS MUCH?
ARE YOU EVEN A TEACHER!?
SQUEAK.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
COME TO THINK OF IT... I WONDER, SHOULD I SAY SO?
...SENSEI
HUHU... WHAT YOU'VE BECOME PERFECTLY HANDSOME, TOO, HAVEN'T YOU
YOUR LOOKS ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT

OH CRAP... EVEN THOUGH I WAS TOLD NOT TO HAVE CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE...
MI-MIKOTO (美琴) ...NO, IT'S NOT MIKOTO (草人) !?
AH ?
!?
MIKOTO, SORRY ! I'M BUSY I DON'T HAVE TIME TO CHAT WITH YOU !
OH DID YOU DO THAT BADLY ON THE TEST ? YOU DID DO NOTHING BUT SLEEP IN CLASS, HUH !
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT ! SEE YA !
!!!
ABRUPTLY
AH AT LAST YOU NOTICED
WHAT'S WRONG TAKERU ? YOU'VE GOT A DIFFICULT LOOK ON YOUR FACE
くいっ
TUG
N-...NO IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT...
FOR SUCH TIMES, THEY SAY ACCEPTANCE IS CRUCIAL ! EVEN IF YOU GET IMPATIENT, THAT CAN'T BE EFFICIENT, Y'KNOW ?
I KNOW, TAKERU LET'S GO PLAY VALGERN-ON !
...HA !?

TIGHTEN
Ms
yamine
Kei
Ms.
amine
Kei
Ms
amine
Kei
...
...
...NAOYA

IT'S A PEACEFUL WORLD...
BUT, WHO'S FIGHTING TO DEFEND THIS PEACE ? WHO'S SUPPORTING IT ?
IN THE WORLD OVER THERE, FOR BETTER OR WORSE... EVERYONE LIVES, BEING DESPERATE EVERY DAY, STANDING NEXT TO DEATH... THEY UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF WINNING FOR THEMSELVES
EVEN IF I LEAVE JAPAN IN ONE STEP, WAR HAPPENS EVERYWHERE, EVEN IN THIS WORLD... HOWEVER, BEING CONVINCED THAT PEACE IS GIVEN UNCONDITIONALLY, EVERYONE MERELY WASTES IT WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING
I SHOULD BE HAPPY I'M ABLE TO COME BACK TO MY ORIGINAL WHEREABOUTS, AND YET...
... ... TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD ...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I'M COMPLETELY INFECTED BY THE WORLD OVER THERE ...
HAHA ...

NOTES:
I HAD A NUMBER OF OTHER TAKES TO TAKERU'S SENTENCE IN THIS PANEL THERE IS A SENSE OF CYNICISM AND BITTERNESS TO HIS SENTENCE, HOWEVER, LIKE THE ONE PRESENTED HERE, THE OTHER TAKES SEEMED A BIT TOO CYNICAL AND BITTER, IMHO. WHICH IS WHY I TRANSLATED THE FINAL VERSION AS SUCH

NOTES
IN THE JAPANESE TEXT, THE NAME OF THE LUNAR BASE READ "PLATEAU 1" (プラトー1). "PLATO" (プラト) IS USUALLY SPELLED SIMILARLY WITH ONE MINOR DIFFERENCE. A CERTAIN CHINESE SITE, WHICH HAD A FAN-FICTION STORY REFERRED IT AS "PLATEAU 1." I WASN'T ABLE TO FIND ANY OFFICIAL JAPANESE-ENGLISH REFERENCES. HOWEVER, THE MUV-LUV WIKI AND THE FAN-TRANSLATORS FOR THE "UNLIMITED" GAME REFERRED TO IT AS "PLATO 1." SO, I STUCK WITH THAT.

THE INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT MOON BASE "PLATEAU 1"

HUMANS WERE RUSHED INTO A WAR SITUATION UPON MEETING BEINGS LIKE THOSE ON MARS

BETAS WERE CAPTURED, AND EVERY POSSIBLE METHOD OF EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS TOWARDS THEIR BODIES WAS CARRIED OUT

IN RESPONSE TO THAT, THE ALTERNATIVE PLAN SHIFTED TO THE SECOND STAGE, WITH THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING BETA ECOLOGY MORE DIRECTLY

WITH SEVERAL KINDS OF BETAS NOW CONFIRMED, NEITHER THE CHARACTERISTICS FOR IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES COULD BE DISCOVERED... NOR THE EQUIVALENTS TO DIGESTIVE ORGANS OR GENITALIA COULD BE SPECIFIED

WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY TO ADAPT, THEY CAN FUNCTION UNDER SEVERE ENVIRONMENTS, SUCH AS MARS AND THE MOON

IN EXCHANGE FOR AN ASTRONOMICAL BUDGET AND A SAMPLE CAPTURE, WHAT WAS UNDERSTOOD WAS, BETAS ARE CARBON-BASED LIFE-FORMS, AND

...ARTIFICIAL ESP HATSUGENTAI (MANIFESTED INDIVIDUALS) ...?
IN SHORT, THAT MEANS, IF WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM, EVEN IF WE DISSECT THEM; AND IF WE CAN'T COMMUNICATE WITH THEM...
— THEN, WE SHALL READ THEIR MINDS
ORIGINALLY, AS A NATIONAL PROJECT, THE SOVIETS MADE ADVANCES IN THAT FIELD OF STUDY
SPANNING SEVERAL GENERATIONS, THEY SYSTEMATICALLY MADE FELLOW ESP MANIFESTED INDIVIDUALS MARRY, AND PRODUCED STRONGER MANIFESTED INDIVIDUALS, YOU KNOW
...DON'T TELL ME, SENSEI...
THAT'S RIGHT ...
YASHIRO KASUMI WAS BORNE BY THAT PROCESS —
NO... SHE IS ONE OF THE HUMANS PRODUCED

NOTES

INITIALLY, I HAD TRANSLATED "ESPERS" AS "ESP MANIFESTED INDIVIDUALS," BECAUSE THAT WAS CLOSER TO THE LITERAL TRANSLATION, "ESP MANIFESTATION BODY" OR SIMPLY "ESP MANIFISTATIONS."

IN THIS ALTERNATIVE TAKE, I ALSO THOUGHT OF KEEPING AND ROMANIZING THE JAPANESE TERM, "HATSUGENTAI." IN THE END, I DEEMED THEM ALL TO BE TOO WORDY AND JUST KEPT IT SIMPLY AS "ESPERS."

HIVE BLITZKRIEG:

"IN VOLUME 1," CHAPTER 6, PAGE 145, TAKERU MENTIONS ABOUT "RUSHING THE HIVE," WHICH WAS A MORE LITERAL TRANSLATION. KASUMI MENTIONS ABOUT THE SAME SITUATION HERE, BUT SLIGHTLY WORDED DIFFERENTLY. CONSIDERING HOW KASUMI PHRASED IT, AND AFTER NUMEROUS ENGLISH TAKES, I SETTLED UPON USING "HIVE BLITZ" OR "HIVE BLITZKRIEG."

THE OTHER NAMES FOR THE MISSIONS: "HIVE RUSHES," "HIVE SURGES," "HIVE ASSAULTS," "HIVE ATTACKS," "HIVE RASHES," ETC.

FUSADONIK 1 // FUSADONIKU 1:

PHONETICALLY, IN THE JAPANESE TEXT, IT'S "FUSAADONIKU," WITH AN EXTENDED ENUNCIATION ON THE SECOND SYLLABLE. THE MUV-LUV WIKI KEPT THE SPELLING AS IT SOUNDED, "FUSADONIKU."

I THOUGHT, SINCE THIS GROUP WAS PERHAPS RUSSIAN, PERHAPS "FUSADONIK" WOULD BE BEST. I MAY BE WRONG IN THINKING THAT.

ONLY KIDDING ABOUT THE HIVE RASHES, BY THE WAY...

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE, 2 FEET FROM THE READER, AT 12 O'CLOCK...

ROAR

SHRIEK

—— I'M SENSING AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA...

—— ROGER!!

—— EACH COMPANY UNIT FROM FUSADONIKU 1

WE WILL GUIDE THE PRINCESS TO THE THRONE FROM HERE

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR "THE CORONATION"? RIP THE CROWN OFF THOSE GUYS OF SOVEREIGN AFFECTATION!

MY OLDER SISTERS INEVITABLY WENT OUT TO THE BATTLEFIELD, AND UNDERTOOK MISSIONS CALLED "HIVE SURGES"

UNLESS THE SUBJECT WAS WITHIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE, THE READING ABILITY WAS INEFFECTIVE

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I SHOULD SAY THIS BUT... UNFORTUNATELY
TONIGOBE FELT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE AN UNLIMITED ALTERNATIVE EXTRA
BUT I DIGRESS... READING AND FORMING A COUNTERPART TO A SUBJECT, THERE'S YASHIRO'S ABILITY TO DO WHAT'S CALLED "PROJECTION"...
... PROJECTION ?
THE ABILITY TO CHANGE A SUBJECT'S OWN THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS WITH IMAGES
IN ALTERNATIVE 3, WHILE PERFORMING READINGS ON THE BETA
IMAGES OF ALL THE "PEACE" THAT MANKIND CAN THINK OF WERE CONTINUOUSLY PROJECTED TOWARDS THEM, BUT... THEY WERE COMPLETELY UNRESPONSIVE
WHETHER THEY HAVE NO CONCEPT OF "PEACE" TO BEGIN WITH... OR THEY IGNORE THE PROJECTIONS BECAUSE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE HUMAN BEINGS AS A LIVING ENTITY...
IN ANY CASE, IN SPITE OF THE EFFORTS OF HUMAN BEINGS WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR OWN APPEARANCES,
(DESPITE THE HUMAN RACE'S EFFORTS BY ANY MEANS)
(IRREGARDLESS OF THE HUMAN RACE'S DRASTIC EFFORTS)
(NO MATTER HOW UNETHICAL/INHUMANE THE HUMAN'S EFFORTS WERE)
AT THAT STAGE, THAT WAS ABOUT THE ONLY THING WE UNDERSTOOD ABOUT THE BETA
... ...

NOTES: I FOUND YUUKO'S SENSEI'S SENTENCE IN THE LAST BALLOON PACKED WITH A LOT OF MEANING THAT I HAD (AS USUAL) NUMEROUS WAYS TO APPROACH IT

HERE I PRESENT A MORE LITERAL TRANSLATION (IN LARGER TEXT), ALONG WITH 2 OTHER ALTERNATIVES (IN RUBIES - SMALLER TEXT)

WHY DID I USE "DOWN-AND-DIRTY" VERSUS "UNETHICAL" OR "INHUMANE"? YUUKO-SENSEI GIVES THE ANSWER TO THAT IN PAGE 122
PLUS IN THE LITERAL SENSE SHE DOES NOT MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT "ETHICS" BUT IN CONTEXT OF WHAT SHE'S SAYING ONE CAN GLEAN THE MEANING OF ETHICS MORALITY HUMANITY, ETC

O-... OI, KASUMI !?
YOU ARE SO SLOW, AREN'T YOU... YASHIRO IS STILL A GIRL, NO MATTER HOW SHE WAS BORN, YOU KNOW ?
SINCE IT WILL BE 3 DAYS BEFORE THE NUMERICAL FORMULA IS PREPARED, YOU CAN TAKE THE DAY OFF TOMORROW
...IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT... LET'S DO TODAY'S REPORT ANOTHER DAY
EH ?
IN THE MEANTIME, YOU MAY SPEND YOUR TIME FREELY ! THAT IS ALL... YOU'RE DISMISSED !!
LOOK DON'T BE ABSENT-MINDED ...RUN AFTER HER, QUICKLY !!
AH...
Y- YES, MA'AM (GASP) !!

NOTE: IN PANEL 4, YUUKO-SENSEI USES THE WORD "NIBUCHIN," WHICH HAS BEEN DEFINED AS "A DULLARD," AS IN SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T PICK UP ON OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS. (REF: WWW.JDIC: ONLINE JAPANESE DICTIONARY SERVICE)

I MAY BE OVER READING INTO THE JAPANESE TEXT, BUT IMHO, THE TERM ACTUALLY COVERS A LOT OF MEANING, ESPECIALLY IN THIS SITUATION WITH TAKERU AND YUUKO-SENSEI: "DULL," "SLOW-WITTED," "SLOW MOVING," "SLOW REACTING," "SLOW TO NOTICE THINGS," "STUPID," "THICKHEADED"... THUS, I TOOK A BIT OF LIBERTY WITH THE TRANSLATION.

HEY! MAYBE "OTD" (OBLIVIOUS, TORPID DULLARD) CAN BE A NEW SLANG TERM!

...HOWEVER, IF WE LOOK AT JUST THE FACTS, IT WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO US, AS FAR AS OUR JUST CAUSE IS CONCERNED
IT SEEMS THEY HAVE INCREASED THEIR ENEMIES AS A MATTER OF COURSE
TO FORCE A CRISIS ON THE PEOPLE IN CONTEMPT OF OUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS, THE SHOGUN... IF YOU DON'T CALL THIS AROGANT, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT !!
THOSE GUYS THINK IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE !!
SLAM!
THEY'RE ALREADY BEYOND REDEMPTION
I WILL DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THAT MAN MYSELF ....
TUMBLE
PAUSE
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

...ARE THERE ANY PROBLEMS ?
IF WE ARE ABLE TO DIVIDE THE RESCUE, MOST WILL BE THE CADET SQUADS...
THEREFORE... THERE WASN'T ANY REASON TO EXPOSE THE DEFENSE LINE
WHAT WE SHOULD DO NOW IS HELP AS MANY CITIZENS, EVEN ONE, SURVIVE
SO, SHOULD I TELL THEM... LET THEM DIE ?
NO, SIR... HOWEVER, FOR SITUATIONS WHERE CITIZENS REFUSE TO EVACUATE, WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN
...ONLY IF THEY LIVE, CAN THEY BECOME ANYTHING
ONLY IF THEY LIVE...

THE PEOPLE WHO OFFERED THE GENES TO ME, THE PEOPLE WHO PRODUCED ME...
AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT MY ABILITIES ARE AFRAID OF ME
AND YET, I DON'T SEE THAT SORT OF "COLOR" FROM YOU...
KASUMI ...?

NOTES. APPARENTLY, EVEN AFTER LEARNING ABOUT KASUMI'S AWESOME ABILITIES, TAKERU NEVER CONSIDERED THE "SCARY" ASPECTS OF KNOWING AN ESPer.

...
...
YOU ...DISLIKE IT ?
DA—
(GASP)
KASUMI THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH !!
JIGGLE
TREMBLE
...SHE'S SOMEWHAT UNEXPECTEDLY POSITIVE, ISN'T SHE
IT'S NOT THAT I HATE IT, Y'KNOW
BUT... THAT'S ENOUGH ALREADY
...
...

IT'S A SERVICE, Y'KNOW... TAKE 'EM
IF THAT'S SO, IT'S DECIDED
CLUNK
?

...N
IT CERTAINLY IS FINE WEATHER, ISN'T IT...
... ...
YOU'RE ... MYSTERIOUS

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA: THAT'S MEAN OF TAKERU!

NOTES: INITIALLY, I WASN'T PLANNING ON DOING AN ALTERNATE TAKE, BUT I FELT TAKERU'S DIALOG IN PANEL 2 WAS INTERESTING ENOUGH TO NOTE. THE FIRST PART OF TAKERU'S SENTENCE IS SIMILAR TO AND REMINISCENT OF YUUKO-SENSEI'S SENTENCE IN CHAPTER 18, PAGE 134. IT SEEMED TO ME THAT TAKERU WAS RELISHING A BIT OF SUPERIORITY, AS YUUKO-SENSEI OFTEN DOES.

FOR THE FINAL VERSION, I CHOSE THE EXPRESSION "BLANK LOOK ON YOUR FACE" BECAUSE...WELL...KASUMI'S FACE IS INDEED BLANK ON THIS PANEL.

IN PANEL 4, TAKERU DOESN'T REALLY SAY "YOU SUCK." I TOOK A BIT OF LIBERTY ON THIS ALTERNATE TAKE FOR FUN. HOWEVER, HE IS RATHER BLUNT IN TELLING KASUMI THAT SHE'S "UNSKILLED," "CLUMSY" OR "AWKWARD," MUCH TO KASUMI'S CONSTERNATION IN PANEL 5.

I GOT THE IMPRESSION SHE MUST HAVE ENJOYED THROWING IT BACK AT HIM IN THE NEXT PAGE, 154. ^_^

SO, I WAS LIKE, HEY, TONI... HOW DO YOU GET TO MAKE DEM SCONES TASTE SO GOOD
AW, LE SE? TAK, YA KILLIN' ME HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TA TELL YA THE SECRET IS IN THE ORANGE SAUCE
YOU'RE UNABLE TO REPRODUCE IT BY SEEING SOMEONE AT MY LEVEL, ARE YOU
HMM... JUST AS I THOUGHT... YOU SUCK, DON'T YOU ?
.....
.....?
...
...
LOOK... DON'T BE AN AIRHEAD (ABSENTMINDED) AND TRY TO ACT LIKE ME, OKAY ?
...
UUH
INCIDENTLY, I WAS THE BEST AMONG THE SQUAD 207 OF "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" Y'SEE ?
...ALL RIGHT... LIKE THAT (GASP) !!
SWOOP
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, YOU TAKE THIS THUMB, HERE... AND YOU DO LIKE THIS, HERE...

ALL 14 PEOPLE WERE SAFELY PROTECTED ON SITE, WITHOUT MAJOR INCIDENT, AND
LIVE BROADCAST AT THE PARLIAMENT
LAST NIGHT, BEFORE DAWN, DUE TO THE INCREASED VOLCANIC ACTIVITY... THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S DISASTER RELIEF CORPS RESCUED UNLAWFUL RETURNEES
..AS FOR THE UNLAWFUL RETURNEES WHO REPEATEDLY REFUSE TO HEED EVACUATION WARNINGS, THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR) HAS REACHED THE OPINION TO CEASE FURTHER ACTION, HOWEVER...
...!
UNGASINGSH
THE IMPERIAL DIET (THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE) ASSUMES THE PROTECTION OF OUR CITIZENS' LIVES AND PROPERTIES TO BE FIRST, AND WILL NOT ALLOW THIS...
THE PREVENTION OF THE FALLING HSST, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW OS... AND MOST OF ALL, IN A FEW MORE DAYS, I'LL OBTAIN THE NECESSARY FORMULA FOR THE 00 UNITS (THE ZERO-ZERO UNITS)
APPARENTLY, BAA-SAN, (THE OLD WOMAN / GRANNY) WHOM WE WENT TO RESCUE, SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN PROTECTED, AND... BECAUSE OF THIS, I SHOULD HAVE EARNED CONSIDERABLE TIME
...I SEE
THE RESCUE ORDERS WE HAD IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" DIDN'T HAPPEN, DID IT...
IS THIS ABOUT... TENGEN-YAMA (MOUNT TENGEN) ?

THEY FORCED A RESPONSIBILITY UPON FEEBLE PEOPLE
THE PERSON WHO HAS POWER DOESN'T KNOW WHERE TO USE THE POWER !!
WHILE ANYONE CAN DO THAT AND SAY IT'S FOR THE SAKE OF THE COUNTRY
...I UNDERSTAND THAT... !
FIRST OF ALL, WE'RE NOT THE IMPERIAL ARMY...WE'RE EISHIS (GUARDSMEN) FOR THE U.N. FORCES
...IS THERE A WAY TO EXCLUDE THAT AT SUCH A TIME ?
... ...
... ... ?
...WE CAN INCLUDE THAT, TOO !
WHAT IS IT THAT WE SHOULD DO ? IS IT TO GRANT THE WISHES OF THE RESIDENTS ?
カチャ CLATTER
カチャ CLACK
BA
...IS THAT WHAT A GUY WHO IS FIGHTING A WAR THAT HAS THE LIFE AND DEATH OF HUMANS HUNG IN THE BALANCE SAYS (GASP) !!